THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

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GONE IN 4 MINUTES — Thieves steal Napoleon-era jewels from Louvre

Robbers on Sunday broke into the iconic Paris museum and made off with the jewels in an audacious daylight robbery lasting just four minutes

The crown of Empress Eugenie was among the items stolen, but it was later found near the museum

Around 9.30 am, several intruders broke a first-floor window, cut through the glass with a disc cutter, and headed straight to the Gallery of Apollo, officials said

The thieves stole eight items from a centuries-old 23-piece Napoleon collection and fled on scooters

The value of the stolen items is still being assessed. Meanwhile, a manhunt is on with the authorities looking for four suspects

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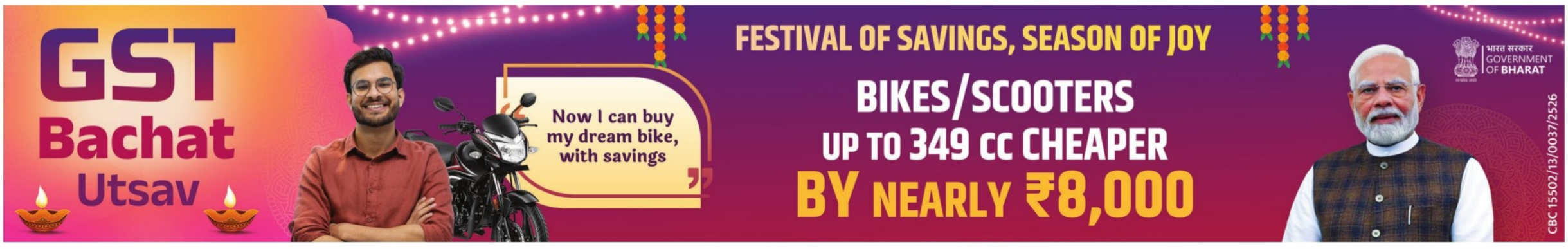


Gaza truce strained after Israel, Hamas trade fire

AGENCIES

Smoke billows following an Israeli strike in the central Gaza Strip on Sunday | AFP

JUST nine days after the guns fell silent in Gaza, the landmark ceasefire agreement appeared to be faltering on Sunday, with Israel carrying out fresh airstrikes in Gaza after accusing Hamas of violating the truce terms by firing at Israeli troops.

Gaza's civil defence agency, which operates under Hamas authority, said at least 33 people, including a woman and two children, were killed in Israeli strikes across the territory on Sunday. Israel said it was checking reports of casualties.

Israel's military said Hamas militants opened fire on troops in parts of Rafah city that fall under Israeli control, according to the agreed ceasefire lines. In response, the military launched fresh airstrikes on Hamas targets in southern Gaza, it said.

Israel said it responded to at least three incidents in which "Hamas fired towards our troops standing behind the yellow line in the agreed-upon positions". Hamas, however, insisted it was complying with the truce and accused Israel of inventing pretexts to continue the war. The group said communication with its remaining units in Rafah had been cut off for months, and "we are not responsible for any incidents occurring in those areas".

The escalation comes just hours after Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu instructed security forces to take "strong action" against Hamas over alleged truce violations.

Israel informed the US in advance of the strikes, *Axios* reported. The US urged Israel to "show restraint". P11

MEETING ON OCT 22 IN DELHI

Ladakh representatives called for talks with MHA

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

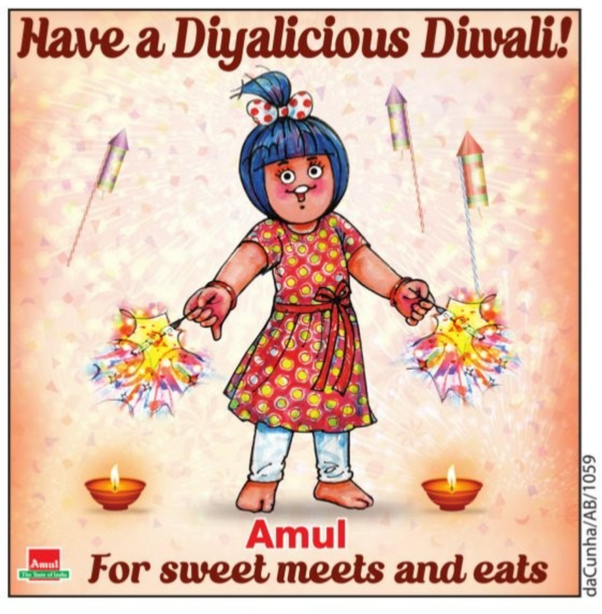
IN a significant thaw after months of impasse, Ladakh's key agitators are set to resume talks with the Centre, with an eight-member delegation from the Leh Apex Body (LAB) and Kargil Democratic Alliance (KDA), alongside MP Haji Haneefa Jan, scheduled to engage a Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) subcommittee on October 22 in New Delhi.

LAB co-chairman Chering Dorjay told this paper that the MHA has invited them for talks chaired by the Union Home Secretary. This marks the first direct engagement between Ladakh representatives and the Centre after the dialogue broke down following protests in Leh on September 24 demanding statehood and inclusion under the Sixth Schedule. The violence left four dead and over 80 injured.

Ahead of the meeting, the MHA on October 17 announced a judicial inquiry led by a retired Supreme Court judge into the September 24 incident — one of the key preconditions set by LAB and KDA to resume talks. The delegation will include three representatives each from LAB and KDA, their legal advisor, and MP Haji Haneefa. Dorjay said they would push for the release of all detainees, including climate activist Sonam Wangchuk, who remains jailed under the National Security Act, and seek compensation for the victims.

> We welcome the decision of the Government of India to invite us for talks in Delhi and look forward to a positive outcome
>
> Chering Dorgay, LAB

KDA leader Sajjad Kargili said the LAB and KDA will jointly attend the meeting. "We are meeting for statehood & Sixth Schedule status, justice for September 24 victims, and release of detainees including Sonam Wangchuk. Only genuine dialogue can fulfil Ladakh's aspirations," he said.



EXPRESS READ

Survey deadline in city now Oct 31

Bengaluru: With the Socio-Economic and Educational Survey making less than 40% progress in Bengaluru, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah extended the deadline from October 24 to 31. A short break from October 21 to 23 too has been declared for Deepavali | P2

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CENTRE WRITES TO STATES

STATES DIRECTED TO SNUFF OUT BONDED LABOUR, TRAFFICKING

JITENDRA CHOUBEY @ New Delhi

THE Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE) has directed all states and Union Territories to intensify action against inter-state human trafficking and bonded labour, following mounting concerns over slow progress in rehabilitation efforts.

In a government order issued on September 25, Secretary Vandana Gurnani instructed all Chief Secretaries to constitute vigilance committees in every district and sub-division to track bonded and child labour cases. States have also been asked to submit proposals for immediate financial assistance to rescued labourers within three months of issuing release certificates.

> Centre will rehabilitate 1.84 crore bonded labourers by 2030. So far, 35,000 labourers have been freed
>
> Ministry of Labour

The directive follows a Supreme Court order of November 22, 2024, which asked MoLE to consult with states to simplify procedures for identifying and rehabilitating bonded labourers. This is the second such directive since December 2024, after the Centre expressed dissatisfaction with the states' progress. "However, not much progress seems to have been made," the order observed.

EXPRESS EXCLUSIVE

MoLE oversees the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976, and implements the "Rehabilitation of Bonded Labour-2021" scheme, which provides compensation of ₹30,000 and rehabilitation grants of ₹1 lakh for men and ₹2 lakh for women. NCRB data for 2023 shows forced labour (23,520 cases) as the largest human trafficking crime, followed by sexual exploitation (17,944). Maharashtra, Telangana, and Odisha reported the highest cases.

Tina Kuriakose Jacob of the International Institute for Migration Development termed the order "a step toward systematic review and monitoring to protect the poorest and most vulnerable workers."

NEED ORGAN, TISSUE DONATION TEAMS IN ALL HOSPITALS

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

ALL hospitals in India should have dedicated teams to counsel families of potential organ and tissue donors, the Centre said in a communication to all states. Hospitals have been asked to report all deaths, make efforts for timely counselling of family members, and encourage them for organ and tissue donation.

The move comes as India faces a huge gap between the number of patients requiring human organ and tissue transplants and the availability of donors.

"It is essential that hospitals should constitute organ and tissue donation teams by involving brain stem death committee members and transplant coordinator/counsellor," said the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO) in a letter to all states. NOTTO is a national-level oganisation set up under the Union health ministry.

> Even if the family does not agree to organ donation, the option for tissue donation must be given to the family
>
> Dr Anil Kumar, director, NOTTO

NOTTO director Dr Anil Kumar, in his letter, said the organ and tissue donation team must be mandatorily notified of all the deaths happening in hospitals.

"Even if the family does not agree to organ donation, the option for tissue donation must be given to the family," Dr Kumar said in the letter dated October 17. Tissues such as corneas, skin, bones, and heart valves can be donated from cases of brain-stem-death and cardiovascular deaths in hospitals or due to natural death cases. Tissues can be harvested up to 10 hours after death. One donor can save eight lives.

"India requires nearly one lakh corneas annually, yet only about one-third of this demand is being met. Bone donation, in particular, plays a vital role in the treatment of patients with trauma, nonunion of bone fractures, congenital abnormalities, and other bone-related disorders," the letter said.

Department of Forest, Ecology and Environment
and Karnataka State Pollution Control Board
Let the light of
Deepavali
bring joy and prosperity
Wishing everyone a Happy
Deepavali Festival
Shri Siddaramaiah
Hon'ble Chief Minister
Shri D. K. Shivakumar
Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister
This Deepavali, let's light ECO-friendly clay lamps.
Deepavali is the festival of lights, let us avoid Air & Noise Pollution.
Directives of Hon'ble Supreme Court
Rule 31.10.2010 and 23.10.2018
Do not use prohibited fireworks which cause noise and air pollution.
Fireworks above 110 decibels are prohibited.
Bursting of Crackers is allowed only for 2 days from 6.00 AM to 7.00 AM and 8.00 PM to 10.00 PM.
Only apporved Green Crackers are allowed
Use green fireworks approved by PESO & NEERI Institute.
Chemical and Hazardus
Fireworks
are Banned
Save Environment
Avoid Crackers
May the lamp shine bright this Deepavali
Let's keep the crackers far away
Shri Eshwar B. Khandre
Hon'ble Minister for Forest, Ecology and Environment
Graced the World Environment Day Celebrations
Shri P. M. Narendraswamy
Hon'ble Chairman
Karnataka State Pollution Control Board
Graced the World Environment Day Celebrations
KARNATAKA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
#49, "Parisara Bhavan" 1st to 5th Floor, Chruch Street, Bengaluru - 560 001
Phone: 25581383, 25589112, 25586520, Fax : 080-25586321
e-mail: ho@kspcb.gov.in, website: https://kspcb.karnataka.gov.in

City pubs lose fizz, blame duty hike, poor infra

BALA CHAUHAN @bengaluru

THE pub city is seemingly losing its spirit with "loss in business" by almost 25% in the last quarter. Sources in the food & beverage (F&B) industry told TNIE that the overall footfalls in their outlets have gradually reduced over the last few months.

"There are several reasons for loss of business. Steep increase in Additional Excise Duty (AED) on Indian Made Liquor, fluctuation in beer prices within this year, long weekends, job insecurity and layoffs, heavy rain, bad road condition, traffic and lack of adequate parking space in the city have had a cumulative effect on people dining out," said some of the owners of pubs and restobars.

"We see many of our regular diners holding back. Corporate companies are cutting cost and people are becoming cautious spenders," said the owners. One of the most perceptive shifts is the loss of footfalls in pubs and bars in IT hubs in the city, they added. "We manage to do 80% of our business in the CBD, but in the IT corridors, there has been a perceptible reduction by at least 20% and it's huge," said owners of some leading pubs and bars.

They added that growing job insecurity and layoffs, especially in the IT sector, which is the main source of revenue for the F&B industry, high rentals, cost of manpower and living are the reasons why people who earlier dined out every weekend have now cut down on their spending. P5

> The market is saturated. Sustaining them while maintaining quality and service is a challenge. Some businesses are suffering because of this as well
>
> Owners of pubs and bars

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU

ALMANAC TODAY
• Monday: 20.10.2025 • Year: Vishwavasu • Ayana: Dakhsinayana
• Ritu: Sharad • Masa: Aswayuja • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Chathurdasi 2.18 pm
• Nakshatra: Hastha 7.58 pm • Moon in Tula Rashi • Rahukaala: 04:30 pm to 06:00 pm
• Gulikakala: 03:00 pm to 04:30 pm • Yamaganda: 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm

WEATHER
MIN 21°C | MAX 27°C
FORECAST
Isolated tstorms. Overcast

Sunrise 06.10 am
Sunset 05.58 pm
Moonrise 05.03 am
Moonset 05.09 pm

All 601 IIMB graduates get placed

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIMB) completed its 2026 summer placement process for its 2025-27 PGP and PGP-BA cohorts. All 601 students received offers from 137 organisations during the placement week, held from October 13-18.

Consulting was the largest recruiting domain, accounting for 46% of the offers. Other sectors, including investment banking, e-commerce and product management also recorded a rise in hiring. Healthcare offers increased by more than 70%.

A total of 23 consulting firms made 282 offers, with Accenture Strategy leading with 132. Finance, banking and investment firms made 86 offers, with notable recruiters like Goldman Sachs, HSBC and JP Morgan. E-commerce, IT and product management roles accounted for 107 offers across 37 firms, while FMCG and conglomerates together contributed 74 offers.

EXPRESS READ

UCO Bank reports ₹620 cr net profit in Q1

Bengaluru: UCO Bank reported a first quarter profit of Rs 620 crore. The bank's total business stood at Rs 5,36,398 crore, registering a year-on-year growth of 13.23 %. Of this, total credit grew by 16.56 % year-on-year to Rs. 2,30,702 crore, while total deposits increased by 10.85 % to Rs 3,05,697 crore, according to a press release. "Agricultural credit stood at Rs 31,650 crore as on September 30, 2025. Retail credit reached Rs 58,987 crore and Net interest income as on on September 30, 2025, is Rs 2,533 crore," the release added. **ENS**

DCM DK Shivakumar interacts with citizens during 'Walk with Bengaluru' event in Koramangala on Sunday

FORGET THE ROOT, DON'T EXPECT FRUIT, DCM SLAMS INFRA CRITICS

Says some industrialists who owe their success to Bengaluru are now criticising it

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

IN a pointed response to prominent industrialists who have publicly criticised the city's poor infrastructure, Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar said, "If we forget the root, we will not get the fruit".

During his 'Walk with Bengaluru' initiative at Veera Yodhara Vana in Koramangala on Sunday morning, Shivakumar, also Bengaluru Development minister, took an indirect swipe at Biocon founder Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw and other industry leaders who have been repeatedly criticising on social media the government's failure to fix Bengaluru.

"Some industrialists who owe their success to Bengaluru are now criticising it. They are forgetting their humble beginnings and how this city helped them grow. I believe that we should not forget our roots," he said.

Asserting that constructive criticism is welcome as it's vital for a healthy democracy, the DCM pushed back against "extreme targeted remarks".

Shivakumar claimed that only Karnataka offers more freedom to the media to report on civic issues than other states, and asserted that the condition in cities like Delhi and Mumbai are no better.

The DCM announced plans to convene a meeting with representatives from the IT sector along with IT/BT Minister Priyank Kharge, Industries Minister M B Patil and Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy.

Shivakumar also defended the government's decision to split the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike into five corporations for better administration. "The proposal was there for over 12 years. Only we dared to act on it," he said and highlighted mega infrastructure projects worth Rs 1.04 lakh crore, including tunnel roads, elevated corridors, double-decker flyovers and buffer roads to address the city's civic woes.

Major complaints raised by citizens included inordinate delay over completion of the Ejipura Flyover; flooding in and around HSR Layout, Ejipura, ST Bed and surrounding areas, broken sanitary lines, vehicles flouting traffic rules, issues pertaining to civic amenity sites, absence of proper footpaths and garbage. A citizen requested the DCM not to levy 5% of the guidance value for conversion of B-khata to A-khata, but instead collect a fixed amount based on the plot size. Shivakumar replied that citizens have to pay as per the guidance value.

Shivakumar, who later inspected the ongoing works at Ejipura Flyover, said they are hoping to complete the corridor by June next year.

Have criticised infra in BJP, JDS tenure too: Shaw

Biocon founder Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw refuted Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar's allegations that she and former Infosys CFO Mohandas Pai have a personal agenda as they didn't complain during the BJP regime. Stating that the allegations are not true, Kiran said, "Both Mohandas Pai and I have criticised deteriorating infrastructure in our city to previous BJP and JDS governments. Our agenda is clear -- clean up and restore roads." On Shivakumar setting a June 2026 deadline for completion of the Ejipura Flyover, Shaw said, "This is a positive development which will greatly relieve traffic congestion and has been 10 years in the making, which previous BJP and JDS governments did not prioritise. Putting this on a priority track is a good move."

Caste survey struggles as city shuts door on enumerators

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

WITH over 15% of households refusing to participate, and entire apartment complexes shutting their doors, the army of government servants, conducting the Socio-Economic and Educational Survey in Bengaluru is staring into a void of apathy. In Banashankari, out of 30 flats, only two cooperated. This isn't an isolated incident, it's a pattern playing out across the city.

"We've visited some houses four to five times. They just won't open the door. Some even hurl insults. But we are only doing our job," said one exhausted enumerator.

Enumerators have faced coldness and hostility, especially from those who have settled in Karnataka from outside the state, with no apparent stake in the state's development.

"Your government has no job, and neither do you -- that's why you trouble us," one person reportedly snapped at an enumerator.

With less than 40% work completed in Bengaluru, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has extended the deadline from October 24 to 31. A short break from October 21 to 23 too has been declared for Deepavali.

Surveyors also pointed to technical glitches and mid-survey software changes for the delay. "Thirty years ago, a nine-judge bench of the Supreme Court asked states to identify backward classes. How can we do that if citizens won't cooperate," a surveyor asked.

Justice Nagamohan Das reminded citizens of their responsibility, saying, "This is a survey for inclusive development. Participation is a civic duty."

JNP lecture on carbon delves into its medicinal use

Bengaluru: The fourth and last lecture of Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium's (JNP) Dasara lecture series was delivered by Sarit S Agasti, associate professor at Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research, on Sunday. He spoke about carbon, its creative power and how much the field of medicine and healthcare owes to the element. Stressing that no other element matches carbon's bonding capabilities, Agasti said, "All organic compounds contain carbon. Its place in modernity is reaffirmed by its presence in organic light-emitting diodes (OLEDs), which is what our screens are made of. It is also the key component in biodegradable plastics."
According to Agasti, this omnipresence of carbon makes itself felt even more when it comes to healthcare. Further down the spectrum, dyes based on carbon are being used to diagnose diseases and their sites within the human body, he said. **ENS**

4 tonnes of waste cleared in Hebbal

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

FOUR tonnes of waste -- 2.5 tonnes of general waste and 1.5 tonnes of construction debris -- were cleared and disposed of during a massive cleaning drive in Hebbal division under Bengaluru North City Corporation limits on Saturday.

The drive covered a 1.5-km stretch from Dollars' Colony Pebble Bay Apartments to Boulevard Park in Ward Number 18. A total of 40 pourakarmikas, two tractors, three auto-tippers and one compactor were deployed for the operation, which included the removal of mud and solid waste, according to a release.

As part of the drive, wall painting was undertaken at black spots to enhance the visual appeal of the area. Commissioner Pommala Sunil Kumar urged citizens to join hands with the city corporation to maintain cleanliness.

Similarly, a cleaning drive was taken up at Bengaluru Central City Corporation limits on Sunday. In Chickpet division, the drive covered Narayanaswamy Garden on BTS Main Road and near Indira Canteen in Hombegowda Nagar. In Shantinagar division, cleaning operation was carried from the major stormwater drain on Bannerghatta Road up to Hosur Main Road on both sides. In CV Raman Nagar division, it covered Philips Millennium to Swami Vivekananda Metro Station on both sides and from Swami Vivekananda Metro Station up to Tin Factory.

Wet and dry waste, plastic, discarded furniture and other debris were cleared. Corporation officials said unauthorised shops and other encroachments along footpaths were removed.

Discarded furniture being removed from a footpath in North City Corporation limits

Biz corridor: Landowners raise concerns over compensation, commercialisation

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

FOLLOWING the state cabinet's clearance of the Bengaluru Business Corridor (BBC), landowners have expressed worries over the lack of accountability. Noting that dealing with a corporate-like Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV), instead of the BDA directly, could complicate compensation processes and reduce transparency, they demanded Monetary Policy review, fair market compensation, and stakeholder participation in the BBC equity model.

The state government's recent notification on the BBC has triggered concerns among landowners affected by the project, which spans 2,560 acres and 26.75 guntas, with an estimated cost of Rs 27,000 crore. According to the landowners, the project will be executed through an SPV. Landowners now face dealing with a corporate-like entity rather than BDA directly, raising questions about accountability and transparency in compensation.

Funding will come from Rural Electrification Corporation Limited (REC), Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited (HUDCO), and Power Finance Corporation Limited (PFC) loans guaranteed by the state, though the government clarified that affected landowners will not directly benefit from this financial backing, the landowners added.

They further state that the land acquisition follows the BDA Act, 1976, and cites a 2022 Supreme Court ruling, exempting it from Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (LARR), 2013, protection, leaving compensation under the outdated Land Acquisition Act, 1894.

While small landholders (up to 20 guntas) are offered full-cash compensation, others are given multiple options — cash, Transferable Development Rights (TDR), Floor Area Ratio (FAR), or commercial/residential sites — without clarity on valuation.

Notably, 35% of developed land is slated to be returned to landowners, though the allocation method remains unclear. The project's design increase to 65m road width and creation of commercial sites, alongside Betterment Tax in a 500m impact zone, has been criticised by the landowners as prioritising commercial gain over fair rehabilitation.

The affected families argue that the SPV mechanism and commercialisation approach undermine constitutional rights.

Horoscopes By Holiday

HOLIDAY MATHIS

20th October : On New Moon Eve Information is only as helpful as the action taken because of it. Even misinformation is valuable to those who take action. The Mercury conjunction to Mars on the eve of a new moon suggests we prove words through action. Scary? Just call it an experiment. All experimentation is successful because even "failures" can lead to the next discovery.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
Caring for others is a big part of your life. Sometimes, this seems to lead to getting ground down by stress. Stress is not your identity; it's just a habit your body and mind learned to keep up. Let it move through you as breath does: inhale, exhale.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 - May 20)
When the butterfly of happiness flits past, just remember that every emotion has its merits. Even sadness can be a beautiful reminder of our humanity, which deepens our experience and shows us we're capable of love and attachment.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 21)
Because thank-you notes are rare these days, writing one stands out and makes you memorable. The same principle applies more broadly: You'll mix thoughtfulness, gratitude and initiative, and make a strong and favorable impression.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22)
The number of moving parts is what makes this part of the story interesting. It's also a bit stressful since you are dealing with so much that is out of your control. State what you want, step aside, and let things work themselves out.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22)
When it feels like no one is listening, remember the value of listening to yourself. Many never hear the song of their own soul. Keep tuning in, and yours will grow so strong and clear that it can't be ignored.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)
Relationships are like feelings: none is more or less correct than another. Each is a unique, unfolding dynamic. Some people are easier to be around, but that doesn't determine the value of the bond.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23)
When you want to be a part of what's happening in the room, your approach matters the most -- think tone over technical skill. It all starts with noticing what's needed and matching your attitude to the environment. When in doubt, default to kindness.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 21)
Passion doesn't have to be dramatic to be profound. It doesn't have to be big to be effective. Even your most secret desire will change you from the inside out. When you change, your circumstances are next.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)
When approaching people with something new, you're likely to hit obstacles. People say no. It's awkward and others see this. There are false starts that can be embarrassing too. But this is all part of the natural friction of beginnings. Keep going. It gets better.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)
Ambition is a fire that must be tended carefully. Too much fuel at once burns you out; too little and you sputter. Today's work is to strike balance: steady logs on the fire, not a bonfire.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)
The stars are giving you a pep talk about resilience. It's in the way the nature around you keeps regenerating, the children grow, the tide goes out and comes back in. New oxygen is everywhere.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - Mar 20)
You've already proven your strength. You wouldn't be where you are if you hadn't powered through tough situations with determination. Don't forget that track record. You deserve acknowledgment for it.

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle

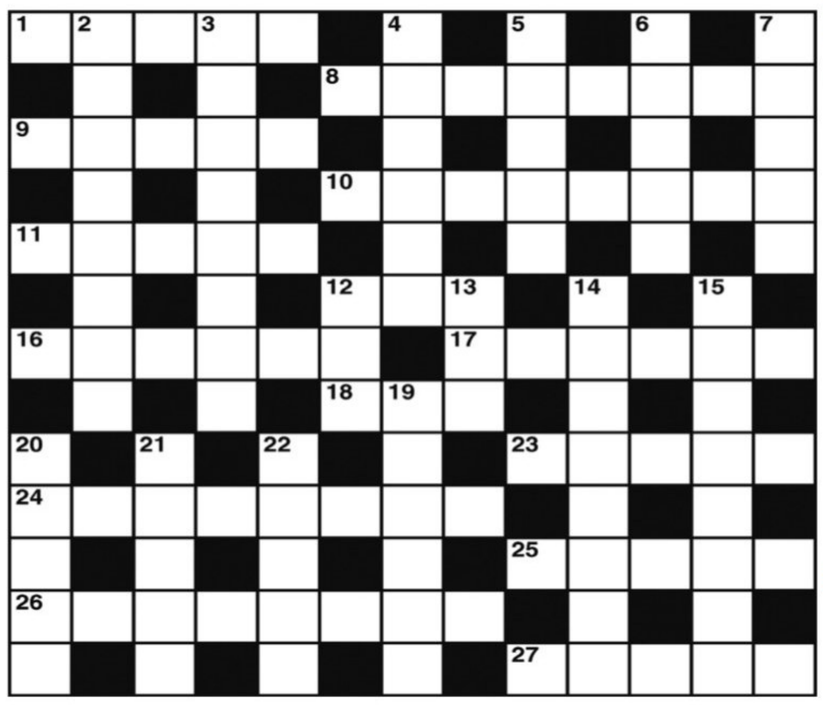
			8					
	4	1		6				
3			2		1	7		4
	5				8			7
		3		5		6		
9			3				2	
6		5	9		4			3
				8		9	1	
					7			

4	2	3	9	6	8	1	5	7
7	1	6	5	3	4	9	8	2
5	8	9	7	1	2	3	4	6
1	3	5	4	7	6	2	9	8
9	6	8	2	5	1	4	7	3
2	7	4	3	8	9	6	1	5
3	5	1	6	9	7	8	2	4
8	4	7	1	2	3	5	6	9
6	9	2	8	4	5	7	3	1

SUDOKU HARD

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS
1 Agree to show an interest in investment (5)
8 About to turn evil positively deadly (8)
9 Abode made of sun-dried bricks (5)
10 Outlook from carriage (8)
11 Eight have to turn the rest back in (5)
12 Live a somewhat peculiar existence (3)
16 Way change of date may be expressed (6)
17 Outstanding work of art (6)
18 Give vent to a song (3)
23 Amusing nobleman rising fifty (5)
24 Deck in a thousand-tonner (8)
25 A bit off the fairway? (5)
26 The courtesy of the townsman (8)
27 Regretted caging a bird (5)

DOWN
2 Show I can edit the right way (8)
3 A noted textbook (8)
4 He's been named as the winner (6)
5 Love food (5)
6 Establish a lead in a tennis match (3,2)
7 Three is odd number (5)
12 She appears as a lawyer in the States (3)
13 Faultily execute right about turn (3)
14 Frightening the French into preparing for war (8)
15 Not rare words of praise (4,4)
19 Light in it for example goes out (6)
20 One breaks the law to go turning up in a Paris street (5)
21 Rebukes with upturned noses? (5)
22 So men are employed making signs (5)

SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS
Across: 1 Consecrate, 6 Halt, 10 Drama, 11 Afternoon, 12 At no time, 13 Sense, 15 Railway, 17 Stand-in, 19 Haggard, 21 Pierces, 22 Spell, 24 Artistry, 27 Reconvene, 28 Extra, 29 Sole, 30 By and large.
Down: 1 Code, 2 Near thing, 3 Erato, 4 Readily, 5 Tethers, 7 Acorn, 8 Tenderness, 9 Arms race, 14 Orchestras, 16 Weak link, 18 Decorator, 20 Drapery, 21 Pattern, 23 Excel, 25 Shell, 26 Pave.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

MCIBL

FRWAH

ZANTAS

PRYOTH

You'll see all the hot and cold water locations and the drains on each floor.
Wow! This is so easy to understand.
HC
HC
8/25
TO PLAN THE NEW HOME'S PLUMBING SYSTEM, THEY CREATED A ---
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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: CROOK PRESS PRIMER DEVOUR
Answer: The chef felt her version of split pea was truly — "SOUP-ERIOR"

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Echoing JDS supremo HD Deve Gowda, his grandson and the party's youth wing president, Nikhil Kumaraswamy, said the alliance between the JDS and BJP remains strong and intact, with no confusion ahead of local body elections

A storm of protest is gathering pace against the proposed Sharavathi Pumped Storage Power Plant project by Karnataka Power Corporation Limited, as locals and green activists flag probable ecological damage and long-lasting deleterious consequences. The atmosphere is thick with fears of displacement of the local population, probable change in demography and large-scale felling of trees. Here is a ground report.

PERILS OF BUILDING POWER PLANTS

The Talakalale reservoir in Shivamogga district, where the water from Gerusoppa dam in Uttara Kannada will be pumped via a 7-km tunnel

CLEARANCE AND PENDENCY

The project received in-principle approval from the National Board for Wildlife on June 26 2025 -- not wildlife clearance -- but this signals that wildlife clearance is certain. At the Forest Advisory Committee meeting on July 30, 2025, to review the project, citizens submitted a 27-page note raising objections on key grounds:

1. Rejection by the Deputy Inspector General of Forests after site inspection, citing disproportionate ecological fallout
2. Ignoring viable alternatives in location and technology, despite legal mandate
3. Deliberate project segmentation to evade cumulative impact assessment, violating Supreme Court orders
4. High landslide and geological instability risk
5. Severe biodiversity impacts -- habitat fragmentation for LTM

NO PERMISSIONS AND DPR

KPCL has not shared the detailed project report but has given its go-ahead to the project, hoping to get all required clearances

KPCL says it has permission from 13 departments to go ahead with the project, but never mentions which departments

Project initially had an estimated cost of Rs 4,000cr in 2008, has been escalated to Rs 9500cr

Central electricity authority has not given consent

KPCL has not listed its plan for power evacuation and transmission

Power generated is highly expensive at Rs 5.12 per unit

Project is misleading as there is no time of day tariff in Karnataka

IMPLEMENTATION AND CONSTRUCTION DISASTERS

- 7-km-long tunnel is to be built beneath 8 hills from Gerusoppa to Talakalale
- Tunnel will be made by blasting rock, using 18,500 tonne of industrial scale explosives
- 1,500 families of labourers will be brought to work from Bihar once work starts
- Will be increased to 3,700 families, and approximately 12,000 people; Gerusoppa population itself is 5000

SCOPE FOR VIOLATIONS AND IMPACTS

The 3,700 families will live in colonies in the LTM sanctuary, in violation of the Forest & Wildlife Act

Project will involve mass felling of trees, pollution of air, water and even noise by blasting, drilling and water contamination

Anthropogenic pressure might threaten wildlife

Pollution of water sources like rivers, rivulets, streams and even myristica swamps would be in danger

Critically endangered plants, animals, reptiles and amphibians will be under threat

Poaching might lead to extinction of species

Conflict between locals and the migrants is bound to increase

Cultural, social changes, crime might increase due to migrant labourers who may stay on

SUBHASH CHANDRA NS

GERUSOPPA (Uttara Kannada): Even as the people's movement gathers pace against the proposed Sharavathi Pumped Storage Power Plant (SPSPP), Energy Minister KJ George's recent statement that the SPSPP will be implemented with least damage to the forest is perhaps an assertion that the project will come up despite people's opposition.

It's not just locals who are opposing it, power pundits, researchers, environment activists and local politicians are also voicing their concerns about it. Greens say it will be an ecological disaster, power pundits say the project is not technically feasible; they suggest the state government should not be adamant about the project but explore alternatives.

Manjunath Hegde, an arecanut grower at Begodi village near Gerusoppa, is crestfallen as he has received an eviction notice to give up his property for the mega project. He has been living here for 60 years. Vinayak Subbaraya Hegde, another villager from Begodi, is facing a similar problem. Venkataramana Naik and Arpitha Maruthi Guruji are also among those who will be displaced. But there is ambiguity -- while 200 families live here, only 40 families have got eviction notices. The 40 families have decided not to allow the project, and have the support of Maruthi Guruji, pontiff of Bangarmakki Mahasamsthan Mutt in Gerusoppa. He is leading the protests in Sagar and Gerusoppa.

"This project is not a new one. It was planned in the early 2000s. It has gathered pace only recently. We will not allow this at any cost. If the State government gets excavators, before digging the earth, they first have to roll over me," said Maruthi Guruji.

The recent public hearing called by the Pollution Control Board to decide on the Karnataka Power Corporation Limited (KPCL) project witnessed strong opposition by the people. "It will be an ecological disaster and a threat to locals in every aspect. It will destroy the pristine Western Ghats. People's livelihoods are at stake and there will be a lot of demographic changes here," said Akhilesh Chipli, an environmental activist. "They have permission and consent from 13 departments, but so far they have not shared the detailed project report," he added.

BIG PICTURE

Justice V Gopala Gowda, former Supreme Court judge, supporting the movement, says the project is in violation of laws and is also malafide use of power on part of the State government.

"This project is against public interest, it violates the Environment Protection Act, 1986, Forest Conservation Act, 1980, contrary to the Supreme Court order in the TN Godavarman Thirumalpad vs Union of India in 1996, which says no commercial activities can be taken up or permitted in the forest area. The project does not have consent from the Pollution Control Board and is also in violation of Article 14 (deems all individuals are equal before law) and Article 21 (right to life and liberty of a person) of the Constitution of India," he said.

A first-of-its-kind project: KPCL

THE project was kept in abeyance since 2004, until recently. It is coming up in the Western Ghats at Talakalale in Shivamogga and Gerusoppa in Uttara Kannada district, across the river Sharavathi. KPCL cites grid stability and capacity addition as a reason for the project. The SPSPP is the first-of-its kind in the state where water from the tail-end at Gerusoppa will be pumped to the headrace at Talakalale dam to generate 2,000MW of power.

"The terms of reference to test the earth for feasibility has been issued earlier and has been renewed in 2023. The country has an installed capacity of 4,745MW and the Union government aims to increase it to 25,600MW by the end of 2032. In addition to SPSPP, we have a capacity of 12,000MW in the state," said Vijay, Executive Engineer, KPCL.

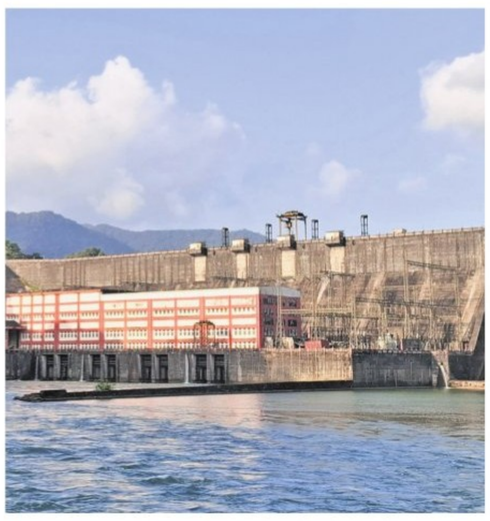
KPCL will utilise 0.37tmcft of the total 200tmcft available in Gerusoppa reservoir, the tailrace of Sharavathi hydel power station, where water will be pumped to the Talakalale dam via a 7-km tunnel drilled beneath 8 mountains with a diameter of 9metres.

"At the headrace, two tunnels -- 9m in diameter, 2,030m and 2,397m long -- will be constructed and a Sur shaft (62.5ht, 20m diameter) will also come up here. Four pressure shafts with a height of 5.25m will be part of this. An access tunnel of 1,795m will be constructed at the tailrace, the D-shaped tunnel. The pumped storage will have 8 units of power station, each with 230MW capacity," he said.

The project aims to pump water from Gerusoppa reservoir during periods when there is no demand during the day to generate power for peak load at night. Though the matter is pending before the Ministry for Environment and Forests (MoEF), KPCL has said that MoEF has communicated to it that there will be no quarry allocated for the massive project.

"We have conducted an Environment Impact Assessment of the project where we have done the soil test and other required tests such as metrological, seismological, air and water pollution tests and assured locals that it will safeguard the environment. We will use M-sand and stones by filtering the soil drilled for the tunnel," he said.

KPCL plans to acquire 54.155 hectares of forest land and 88.608 hectares of farm land for the project at Talakalale, Nagarbastikere and Begodi villages, and plans to chop 16,041 trees. "But the DPR says more than one lakh trees," says green activist Chipli.



The Gerusoppa dam in Uttara Kannada, from where water will be pumped to Talakalale dam in Shivamogga

Locals fear big demographic shift

KPCL has already allocated work tenders to a Hyderabad-based company, and plans to bring in 1,500 families of labourers from Bihar, which will be increased to 3,700 families.

"The entire population of Gerusoppa itself is not even 5,000. The arrival of people will change the demography of the region. What about the social and cultural security of Honnavar and Uttara Kannada," asks Maruthi Guruji, pontiff of Bangarmakki Mahasamsthan Mutt.

"The project site is a part of the Lion-Tailed Macaque (LTM) Sanctuary, where very few people are allowed to enter, as per the Wildlife Act and Forest Conservation Act. But here is a case where at least 12,000 people will be brought in under the pretext of Pumped Storage Project Construction. Is KPCL sure there will be no pollution due to human intervention? What plans do they have to prevent poaching of endemic macaques and other wildlife," he asks.

Shankar Sharma, a power expert from Shivamogga, said the pumped storage plant to operate from the lower reservoir to Talakalale requires 125 per cent more energy than it generates. They say they generate power when there is low demand by consuming more energy and generate at a lesser cost. This means the cost of power generation per unit is 125 per cent more than consumption. Why do you want such a project, he questioned.

A former chief engineer with KPTCL said the Linganamakki hydel project is generating power at a cost of 30paise per unit. "But energy generated through pumped storage will be sold to consumers at a rate of Rs 5.12 per unit. It will not be cheap power as claimed by KPCL," he said.

Sharma said the existing 220KV power transmission lines which evacuate 220MW will not bear the 2,000MW generated through pumped storage power plants. "They need an additional 65 hectares of forest land for transmission. They need to upgrade the existing transmission and power line," he said.

"Experts have suggested that KPCL immediately drops the project and goes for heavy battery storage capacities where solar energy generated, using solar panels, can be stored and supplied. There is a lot of potential to generate solar energy, particularly in Kalyana Karnataka region," said Shankar Sharma.

Gruhalakshmi beneficiaries to have their own co-op society

ENS @ Bengaluru

THE Cooperation Department has cleared the decks for shares to be collected in order to set up the proposed Gruha Lakshmi Multipurpose Co-operative Society — aimed at integrating about 1.3 crore beneficiaries of the Gruhalakshmi guarantee scheme into the cooperative sector.

The additional registrar of cooperative societies, Lakshmipathaiah, on Saturday wrote to the chief promoter of the proposed Gruha Lakshmi Vividoddhesha Sahakara Sangha Niyamita, Nagarathna MV, of the women's development corporation, to collect a minimum 1,000 shares and Rs 20 lakh share amount in 90 days, for the society to become eligible for registration. The chief promoter had submitted the project report, following which the assistant registrar of cooperative societies had filed a feasibility report, observing that the proposed society could be sustained.

The initiative is to empower the beneficiaries and make them self-reliant by disbursing loans to take up economic activities.

Tahsildar denies permission to RSS march in Chittapur

FIROZ ROZINDAR @ Kalaburagi

TAHSILDAR Nagaiah Hiremath on Saturday night issued an order, denying permission for a route march organised by the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) scheduled between 3 pm and 6.30 pm on Sunday in Chittapur town.

In his order addressed to RSS district president Prahlad Vishwakarma, who had applied for permission, the tahsildar said the Bhim Army and Dalit Panthers had also sought permission to hold a similar march in Chittapur on the same day. As simultaneous events by multiple organisations could lead to a law and order problem, the police had recommended against granting permission. Acting on the police report, the tahsildar denied permission to both groups to prevent any untoward incidents or disturbance of peace.

RSS activists, who had made elaborate preparations for the procession by planting Bhagwadhwaj (saffron flags), banners, and buntings across Chittapur, represented by RDPR Minister Priyank Kharge, saw them removed by municipal authorities on Saturday morning for lack of proper permission. Later that night, SP Addur Srinivasulu visited the town and reviewed security arrangements.

Following the denial of permission, RSS district convener Ashok Patil approached the Kalaburagi Bench of the High Court, challenging the tahsildar's order. Justice MGS Kamal, who conducted an urgent hearing, directed the petitioners to submit a fresh application with a detailed route map and necessary clarifications for holding the procession on a later date, tentatively fixed for November 2. The court directed the Kalaburagi DC to consider the application and submit a report by 2.30 pm on October 23, before adjourning the hearing to October 24.

Meanwhile, in Sedam, the RSS organised a grand route march on Sunday, as part of its centenary celebrations, despite police restrictions. The procession, which began from Narmada College premises, was stopped by police near the DBR compound. Undeterred, the participants continued the march in smaller groups across various parts of the town, where local residents welcomed them with showers of flowers. Children dressed as national leaders also participated in the event. The procession, which saw the participation of nearly 1,500 people, concluded back at Narmada College after covering several routes in the town.

Rally planned after RSS man threatened me: Priyank

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

IT/BT Minister **Priyank Kharge** on Sunday took a dig at BJP and RSS, alleging that the RSS planned a 'path sanchalan' (route march) in Chittapur after an RSS man was arrested for posing a threat to his life. "It is a deliberate attempt to target me. What point does BJP and RSS want to prove by taking out the path sanchalan in my Assembly constituency," he asked.

He defended the Chittapur tahsildar's action to reject the RSS request to hold the march on Sunday, citing a tense situation in the town. The Sangh should apply again for the march and the government will consider the request, Kharge said. "RSS has not been singled out. Similar requests from the Dalit Panthers and Bhim Army too have been rejected," he said.

As BJP claimed that the HC gave RSS permission to hold the march on November 2, Kharge said the party has misread the court's direction. "BJP, led by (Assembly opposition leader) R Ashoka and (state party president) BY Vijayendra, is peddling misinformation. The truth is simple: The RSS event scheduled in Chittapur has not been permitted. The high court has only directed the petitioners (RSS) to file a fresh application, which the state government may consider," he posted on X.

Vijayendra posted on X, "The High Court has upheld the dignity of the Constitution by delivering a stern rebuke to the Congress government, which sought to snatch away democratic rights. Those who attempted to ban the RSS path sanchalan in Chitapur have faced humiliation. Today's court verdict sends a clear message that there is no room for authoritarian rule in a democratic system and has taught a fitting lesson to those who loudly proclaim their commitment to the Constitution in broad daylight."

He stated, "It is the government's duty to grant permission for cultural and public awareness programs with the condition of maintaining law and order. However, if attempts are made to stifle the democratic system under the pretext of law and order, the country's Constitution will not allow it. This message has been conveyed through today's verdict, rendering the Congress party's sinister policy of suppressing nationalist organizations ineffective."

Members of Rashtra Sevika Samiti undertake a 'path sanchalan' in Ganganagar, Bengaluru, on Sunday. Union minister Shobha Karandlaje is also seen | EXPRESS

Youth Cong members try to lay siege to RSS office

BENGALURU: Amid the controversy over the state government's opposition to RSS activities in government premises, Youth Congress members on Sunday afternoon allegedly attempted to lay siege the Keshava Krupa, office of the RSS state headquarters on Ranga Rao Road here, demanding a ban on the organisation. Recently, minister Priyank Kharge wrote a letter to CM Siddaramaiah seeking to regulate RSS activities. The police said around 12.30 pm, Youth Congress members staged a protest outside the RSS headquarters on Ranga Rao Road in Shankarpuram. During the protest, they attempted to lay siege to the place, demanding that the Sangh be banned. Ten people were taken into preventive custody, but were later released. As a precaution, police personnel have been deployed. **ENS**

A 26-year-old man was killed in a hit-and-run accident after being struck by an unidentified vehicle on the Bengaluru-Mysuru highway in Maddur town on Saturday night. The deceased is K P Nagaraj, a resident of Ambedkar Colony. According to the police, a speeding lorry coming from behind hit Nagaraj's bike while overtaking near the Akash Showroom on the highway

Educationists criticise Karnataka's plan for eight PPP medical colleges

Says model is 'fraudulent' and unsuitable for core sectors like education, healthcare

GAYATHRI M KURUP @Bengaluru

CITY-based educationists have strongly criticised the Karnataka government's proposal to open eight new government medical colleges under the Public–Private Partnership (PPP) model in Kolar, Tumakuru, Vijayapura, Davanagere, Udupi, Dakshina Kannada, Bengaluru Rural, and Vijayanagara districts.

Educationist Niranjanaradhya V P condemned the proposal, calling the PPP model "fraudulent" and unsuitable for core sectors like education and healthcare. "When private entities take control, education becomes a business rather than a social right," he said. "It deprives marginalised communities of access and turns learning into a privilege of the wealthy. This is very inhuman and goes against the basic tenets of the Constitution. Where is natural justice? Where is equality of opportunity?"

He further pointed out that privatisation in medical education promotes a profit-driven mindset among students. "When one spends crores to complete medical studies, the motive becomes recovering that money instead of serving the people," he said. "Education should be state-funded, state-managed, and accessible to all without discrimination. Otherwise, the entire system becomes dependent on affordability, and those who cannot pay are left without basic rights."

"The government's proposal for private-public partnership medical colleges certainly leads to privatisation. While granting permissions, the government should impose conditions, such as allocating 50 percent of seats to students from marginalized communities or reserving 50% through the government entrance test," opined Vasudev Sharma, a child rights activist. Terming the move a step towards privatisation and commercialisation of education, members of All India Democratic Students' Organisation (AIDSO) shared that the PPP model, in the name of development, was "a tool to hand over public resources to private profiteers." The organisation warned that such arrangements would lead to exorbitant fees, declining academic standards, and denial of access to students from poor and middle-class families.

The student organisation has condemned the decision and concluded that instead of succumbing to the dictates of corporate lobbies, the government must allocate adequate funds from the public exchequer to strengthen and expand fully government-run medical institutions.

FESTIVAL GLOW

People buy earthern lamps on the eve of Deepavali in Bengaluru, on Sunday. The festive preparations are in full swing with markets bustling with activity | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

19-year-old biker dies in HAL accident

Bengaluru: A 19-year-old biker died early Sunday morning after losing control of his two-wheeler and colliding with a roadside tree on Kariyammana Agrahara main road in HAL traffic police limits. The deceased has been identified as Sahil Ahmed, a resident of Devarabisanahalli and native of Assam, who worked as a sanitation worker in a private company. According to police, around 3.30 am, Ahmed was returning home after meeting a friend when he lost control of his speeding bike and hit a tree. He sustained severe head injuries. Passersby rushed him to a nearby hospital, but he was declared brought dead. A case has been registered at HAL Traffic Police Station.

'Tier-2 cities doing brisk biz'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"THERE is not one reason why business slowed down in the last quarter. People make use of the long weekend and go out of the city for a break. Tier-2 cities are doing brisk business because of this. The two-day weekend is the mainstay of our business. Our places warm up from Friday night onward, but that's not the case every weekend now. Heavy rain has made commuting a nightmare. We strongly recommend hiring drivers or using taxi services to prevent drunk driving, but booking a taxi is not easy, especially when it rains. These are practical difficulties. People would much rather stay at home, watch films or serials on OTT and order in dinner," said the owner of a popular restobar.

"Post the pandemic, the industry had suddenly grown and the number of pubs, bars and resto-bars had increased with huge expenditure on large spaces and table covers. There is an overkill and the market is saturated with too many watering holes. Sustaining them while maintaining quality and service is a challenge. Some businesses are suffering because of this as well," they added.

BMRCL's 14-yr journey faces flak over limited Metro expansion

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

NAMMA Metro marked 14 years of operations on Sunday, commemorating its first run between MG Road and Baiyappanahalli on October 20, 2011. The 6-km stretch, which once drew over a crore passengers within 12 days of launch, has now grown into a 96-km network.

However, as the Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) celebrated the milestone, many Bengalureans took to social media to critique the limited extent of the network. "Wow! Hats off. Ninety-six kilometres in 14 long years — what a performance!" wrote Srinivas, adding wryly, "If this had been a private company, everyone would've been sent home by now."

Another user, Hari Mallabadi, remarked, "Congrats, but compare yourself with Delhi Metro — they've gone far ahead. What's stopping you?" He quipped, "Since it's the 14th anniversary, will you raise fares by Rs 14?"

The network would not have been at 96 km, had the Pink Line connecting Kalena Agrahara to Nagawara (21.6 km) met its deadlines, and the total operational length would be a little over 117 km. The elevated stretch from Kalena Agrahara to Tavarekere, was set for opening in September 2025, which will now be ready only by March 2026. The underground section from Dairy Circle to Nagavara (13.76 km) originally targeted for opening on June 2026, is now slated for September 2026.

JALAPPA HELPED ME RISE POLITICALLY, SAYS SIDDU

V VELAYUDHAM @Doddaballapur

CM Siddaramaiah inaugurates the birth centenary celebrations of former minister RL Jalappa in Doddaballapur on Sunday

FORMER minister RL Jalappa was warm-hearted and helped me achieve political success, said Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, speaking about his former JDS colleague on his birth centenary here on Sunday. Attending the event on the RL Jalappa Technical University campus, the CM also launched a biography on Jalappa.

"An efficient administrator, Jalappa not only left his footprint in every portfolio he handled, but also contributed immensely to farmers and agriculture. He was the reason I became a minister for the first time. Jalappa persisted with HD Deve Gowda that I be made chief minister," Siddaramaiah remembered.

"Jalappa also had a role in me becoming the finance minister for the first time. I wanted to become a revenue minister, but he insisted that I take up the finance portfolio. It was because of him that I have presented 16 budgets," he said.

On the occasion, the RL Jalappa Birth Centenary Award was presented to former MLA RG Venkatachaliah.

Bengaluru district in-charge minister KH Muniyappa said discussions will be held with the chief minister on instituting an award in the name of Jalappa, remembering his contributions to fields of agriculture and cooperation.

Former Council Speaker VR Sudarshan said the government should celebrate Jalappa's birth centenary in the district itself.

Former Speaker KR Rameshkumar said character assassination and mental torture are common in the system for those who have merit. Jalappa, who had made a mark in politics with his immense talent and efficiency, was a target of jealousy, he added.

Siddaramaiah inaugurated the RL Jalappa Academy building, while Muniyappa laid the foundation stone for the RL Jalappa Centenary Bhavan. Education Minister Madhu Bangarappa laid the foundation stone for the construction of Shree Devaraj Urs International Residential School building.

Chief Minister's Political Secretary Naseer Ahmed, Bharat Scouts and Guides State Principal Commissioner PGR Scindia, Former MP VS Ugrappa, Doddaballapur MLA Dheeraj Muniraj, Sagar MLA Belur Gopalakrishna, Gouribidanur MLA Puttaswamy Gowda, former minister Rani Satish, AICC General Secretary MC Venugopal, KSRTC ex-president T Prabhakar, ex-MLA T Venkataramaniah, Arya Edigara Sangh president M Thimmegowda, SDUET vice-president J Rajendra, secretary KG Hanumantharaju and others were present.

> **An efficient administrator, Jalappa not only left his footprint in every portfolio he handled, but also contributed immensely to farmers and agriculture** — Siddaramaiah, Chief Minister

EXPRESS READ

Five men arrested for faking disability to beg

Bengaluru: Five men from Uttar Pradesh were arrested for pretending to be differently-abled and begging on the streets, despite being in good physical condition. The accused have been identified as Sandeep Kumar (29), Sooraj (31), another Sooraj (25), Sunil (26), and Sunoj (28), all natives of Uttar Pradesh, who were staying in a shed in Hulimavu. According to Hulimavu police, during routine patrolling on Wednesday around 5 pm, the men were found begging on Bannerghatta Road, using walking sticks meant for people with disabilities and displaying QR codes to collect money from the public. When questioned, they failed to provide any disability certificates, and their physical condition indicated they were healthy.

Spl Madgaon Express to terminate at Yesvantpur

Bengaluru: The South Western Railway announced a change in the schedule of Train No. 06206 Madgaon – Bengaluru Cantonment Express Special, due to operational constraints, prompting the train to terminate at Yesvantpur. Originally scheduled to depart Madgaon on October 20, and terminate at Bengaluru Cantonment, the train will now end its journey at Yeshwanthpur, skipping the SMVT Bengaluru stoppage. The short termination affects passengers travelling towards Bengaluru Cantonment, and SWR has advised commuters to plan their travel accordingly. This adjustment comes amid the ongoing operation of several Deepavali special trains designed to clear the extra passenger rush. The affected train services were part of SWR's festive schedule, which includes multiple special services between Hubballi, Madgaon, and Bengaluru Cantonment, covering important stations across Karnataka and Goa.

HDK urges farmers to grow more pulses to reduce dependence on imports

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

Union Minister for Heavy Industries HD Kumaraswamy with Union Minister of State for Labour Shobha Karandlaje and BJP MP Dr CN Manjunath in Bengaluru on Sunday

UNION Minister for Steel and Heavy Industries HD Kumaraswamy urged farmers to cultivate pulses alongside paddy to reduce India's dependence on imports.

Inaugurating the 3rd Agricultural Insect Biocontrol Expo and the 33rd Foundation Day of Indian Council of Agricultural Research - National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources (ICAR-NBAIR) here on Sunday, he said the Centre has launched several welfare schemes and remains committed to farmers' upliftment.

Bengaluru Rural MP, Dr CN Manjunath, said, "India loses nearly 15 to 35% of crops every year to pest-related diseases, resulting in farmer losses estimated at Rs 90,000 crore" and stressed that human health depends on the quality of crops and the fertility of the soil. "We need to use biological methods more often. Many diseases can be prevented by adopting organic methods. It is necessary to reduce the use of pesticides and chemical fertilisers", he said.

He said, "The environment does not need humans — humans need the environment. If we destroy the soil, air, and water, we destroy ourselves. Our future depends on adopting sustainable and biological farming methods. Healthy soil, healthy crops, and healthy people, that must be our new agricultural mantra."

Union Minister of State for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and Ministry of Labour and Employment, Shobha Karandlaje, said the previous generations of our farmers had more knowledge about farmer-friendly insects. Work is being done to disseminate this knowledge to today's farmers as well. Farmers, researchers, and scientists are being sensitised about organic farming.

During the event, farmers who achieved excellence in agriculture and scientists from ICAR - NBAIR were felicitated. SN Sushil, Director of the institute, and others were present on the occasion.

> **We need to use biological methods. Many diseases can be prevented by adopting organic methods. It is necessary to reduce the use of pesticides and chemical fertilisers**
>
> CN Manjunath, Bengaluru Rural MP

GOVT. TOOL ROOM & TRAINING CENTRE

Rajajinagar Industrial Estate, Bengaluru-560010.
Ph: 080-23157189, Fax: 080-23301683

ELECTRONIC TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tender No: GTTC/MCD/TENDER/EOI/GL/BD-283/2025-26.

GTTC invites E-Tender for Expression of Interest for setting up of Foreign language lab along with required infrastructure on turnkey basis at GTTC centres. The last date for submission of documents is on **11.11.2025.** For further details log on to website: **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Helpdesk Phone No. +91 9240214000 & +91 9240214001.

Sd/- Managing Director

GOVT. TOOL ROOM & TRAINING CENTRE

Rajajinagar Industrial Estate, Bengaluru-560010.
Ph: 080-23157189, Fax: 080-23301683

ELECTRONIC TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tender No: GTTC/MCD/TENDER/Machineries & Lab/BD-282/2025-26.

GTTC invites E-Tender for Supply of Machinery and equipment for various GTTC Centres across Karnataka. The last date for submission of documents is on **07.11.2025.** For further details log on to website: **https://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Helpdesk Phone No. +91 9240214000 & +91 9240214001.

Sd/- Managing Director

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GAZA ENDGAME: DONALD TRUMP'S SHORT-TERM FIX, NO LONG-TERM SOLUTION

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BRIC a DBT Organization | **RGCB** DISCOVERIES FOR A BETTER TOMORROW

BIOTECHNOLOGY RESEARCH AND INNOVATION COUNCIL (BRIC) - RAJIV GANDHI CENTRE FOR BIOTECHNOLOGY (RGCB)

A Biotechnology Institute of the Government of India, Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry for Science & Technology, Thycaud PO, Thiruvananthapuram 695014, Kerala, India, www.rgcb.res.in

Advt No. RGCB/PhD/2026-I/October 2025 20/10/2025

Ph.D. ADMISSION 2026

BRIC-RGCB invites application for admission to the Ph.D. program 2026 January session in various domains of Biotechnology from post-graduates having a minimum of 60% marks and 4-year Bachelor's degree having a minimum of 75% marks in Life/Environmental/Veterinary/Pharmaceutical/Medical Sciences or allied subjects and as per UGC guideline. The candidate should have a valid JRF (UGC/CSIR/ICMR/DBT/DST-INSPIRE or any other nationally-competitive fellowship) offered by the Government of India and should be valid for a period of 5 years. Complete information, application format, eligibility and other details are available on the RGCB website (**www.rgcb.res.in**). Applications along with prescribed fees must be submitted online through the link given in the web portal on or before **November 14, 2025**. Incomplete applications and application without processing fees will be rejected.

Sd/-
Director

ಮೈಸೂರು ವೈದ್ಯಕೀಯ ಕಾಲೇಜು ಮತ್ತು ಸಂಶೋಧನಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ
(ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸರ್ಕಾರದ ಸ್ವಾಯತ್ತ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ)
ಇರ್ವಿನ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಮೈಸೂರು–570 001
ದೂರವಾಣಿ+91–0821–2520512 ಕಛೇರಿ 2520803 (ಫ್ಯಾಕ್ಸ್)
Website: www.mmcri/karnataka.gov.in
E-mail: mmcrimysore@yahoo.com

No. Out Source/ 50 /2025-26 Date: 04.10.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Tender has been invited as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurements Act 1999 for providing of Manpower services on out-source basis for the various Group 'C' vacant posts at Mysore Medical College and Research Institute, Mysuru and associated hospitals. The Tender documents may be downloaded from E-procurement website:https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from **17.10.2025** and last date for submission of Tenders through E-procurement website is **17.11.2025** upto **5.00 PM**. Those tenders which are not submitted with **E.M.D.** will be rejected.

If, the last date for submission of Tender treated as holiday, the next working day will be considered as last date. No Notification in this regard will be announced.

Sd/-Director and Dean, Mysore Medical College and Research Institute, Mysuru.

DIPR/DDMYS/1103/KSMCA/595/2025-26

Two government school teachers, Swami Gowda and Madhushri, were injured when a speeding car rammed their motorcycle at HD Kote taluk on Sunday. They were on their way for Socio-Economic and Educational Survey duty, when the accident occurred

'Vote Chor, Gaddi Chod': Cong launches signature blitz

Party sets Oct 24 deadline for each min to secure 2 lakh signatures

BANSY KALAPPA @ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka Congress has gone into campaign overdrive, with state party president and Karnataka Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) president and Deputy Chief Minister **DK Shivakumar** issuing personal letters to all ministers and MLAs, instructing them to collect at least 2 lakh signatures each from their constituencies as part of the nationwide 'Vote Chor, Gaddi Chod' (Vote Thief, Quit Office) campaign targeting the Union Government.

The letters underscore the Congress' intent to make Karnataka a flagship contributor to the protest movement, which accuses the BJP-led Centre of "stealing the people's mandate through institutional subversion and electoral manipulation."

In the communication, Shivakumar said the party has set an October 24 deadline for each minister to secure signatures, with the final goal set at 2 lakh.

The campaign is being overseen by AICC General Secretary (Organisation) KC Venugopal and AICC Karnataka in-charge Randeep Singh Surjewala, both of whom, the letter warns, will be monitoring daily progress.

"The National General Secretary will be seeking information on the daily quantum of signatures collected, district-wise. You are therefore requested to provide daily updates to the Pradesh Congress Committee so that Karnataka leads the national effort," Shivakumar wrote.

The drive is expected to culminate in a mass submission of signatures to the President of India in early November.

Congress insiders say Karnataka's participation is crucial, both symbolically and strategically. "Karnataka is Congress' strongest state unit right now — the high command wants it to set the tone for national mobilisation," said a senior KPCC office-bearer.

'Organisational mission'

With less than a week to meet the targets, ministers have been told to treat the exercise as an "organisational mission" rather than a routine campaign. Daily digital dashboards are being readied at the KPCC headquarters to track constituency-wise numbers, and ministers have been warned that non-performance will be reviewed at the national level.

As the Congress sharpens its anti-BJP pitch ahead of the Lok Sabha campaign cycle, the signature drive is being viewed as both a test of ground machinery and a show of unity under Shivakumar's leadership — a signal that Karnataka will be at the forefront of the party's national comeback script.

A Star Air aircraft | EXPRESS

Bengaluru–Hampi daily flight service to begin from November 1

BALLARI: In a major boost to tourism and business in the Ballari and Vijayanagara districts, regional airline Star Air has announced plans to launch a new flight connecting Bengaluru and Hampi. The flights will operate via Vidyanagar (JSW) Airport, the nearest airport to the historic town. The announcement comes as a relief for travellers and locals, as flight operations at JSW Airport had been suspended for the past month. The new service is expected to significantly improve connectivity to Hampi, a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of South India's most popular tourist destinations. Ballari stands to benefit as well. According to sources, the flight service will commence on November 1. The announcement by Star Air has brought joy to tourists and local businesses. Earlier, Alliance Air operated daily flights to Bengaluru, but the service was suspended due to technical reasons. According to Star Air, a daily flight will depart from Bengaluru in the morning, reach Vidyanagar, and return shortly after. The flight will depart Bengaluru at 7:50 am, reach Vidyanagar at 8.40 am, return from Vidyanagar at 9.10 am and reach Bengaluru by 10 am. This will be a daily service. Virupakshi V Hampi, Secretary of the State Tourists Guides Association and Hampi Guide, said, "Hampi is about 35 km from JSW Vidyanagar Airport. Currently, many tourists use Hubballi Airport, which is about 150 km away. I'm thankful to Star Air for this much-needed service."

96.96% VOTER TURNOUT

Jarkiholi faction has clear edge in DCC Bank poll

SUNIL PATIL @ Belagavi

THE high-stakes election for the Belagavi District Central Co-operative (DCC) Bank concluded on Sunday with an impressive 96.96% voter turnout and a clear edge for the Jarkiholi panel, which dominated the results in the fiercely contested poll.

Voting took place smoothly from 9 am to 4 pm at BK Model High School, Belagavi, under tight police security and CCTV surveillance. A total of 676 eligible voters from seven taluks — Athani (125), Bailhongal (73), Hukkeri (90), Kittur (29), Nippani (119), Raibag (205), and Ramdurg (105) — cast their votes. The election was held for seven contested director posts, while nine directors had already been elected unopposed earlier.

The election witnessed a direct contest between the Jarkiholi panel and an undeclared alliance led by Ramesh Katti and Laxman Savadi, both of whom hold strong cooperative and political influence in the district.

Results and Trends

Out of the total 17 board seats, results for 13 have been declared, where eight candidates from the Jarkiholi panel have emerged victorious. In the remaining four seats, three candidates from the same panel are currently leading, giving the Jarkiholi faction a decisive edge in the overall outcome. The results for Bailhongal, Hukkeri, Kittur, and Nippani have been withheld pending the Karnataka High Court's Dharwad Bench hearing on October 28, as some votes are under judicial scrutiny. Returning Officer and Assistant Commissioner Shravan Naik confirmed that counting was completed the same day and said results for the disputed seats will be announced after court clearance.

Clash outside election Centre

A minor clash broke out outside Eifa Hotel and later at the BK Model High School polling centre between supporters of the Jarkiholi panel and the undeclared panel of Ramesh Katti and Laxman Savadi over the alleged denial of delegation forms to voters from Raibag taluk.

Around 40 aggrieved voters, who claimed they were denied the forms necessary to cast their votes, lodged a complaint at the Camp Police Station and later attempted to meet the Returning Officer in person. When the police stopped them at the entrance, tempers flared, leading to a brief physical altercation. Senior officers swiftly intervened to restore order.

Congress legislator Laxman Savadi (centre) at the counting centre in Belagavi

EXPRESS READ

JDS men protest insult to Kumaraswamy

HASSAN: JDS workers on Sunday staged a protest, accusing the administrator of the Hasanamba temple of insulting Union minister HD Kumaraswamy during his visit recently. Led by Hassan MLA Swaroop Prakash and Arkalgud MLA A Manju, former MLA HK Kumaraswamy, and KS Lingesh, as well as Hassan Mayor Girish Channaveerappa, the protesters gathered on BM Road, raising slogans against the administrator. They claimed that according to protocol, the temple authorities were supposed to garland and offer a shawl to Kumaraswamy during his visit. However, they alleged that the administrator had intentionally neglected the minister, disrespecting him.

RARE FIND

Striped hyena sighted in Kali Tiger Reserve

AMIT S UPADHYE @ Hubballi

PIC FOR REPRESENTATION

THE foresters at Kali Tiger Reserve near Dandeli in Uttara Kannada district in Karnataka were up for a surprise when they sighted and recorded presence of a striped hyena (locally called k*atte kiruba).*

Hyenas are rare mammals that are found in drier forest areas of North Karnataka and there are no records of regular sighting of these animals from the Western Ghats. Last week, a team of forest officials from Kali Reserve spotted the hyena in the safari zone of the tiger Reserve. Senior officials were notified about the rare sighting and a team is watching the movements of the animal.

"One individual hyena has been sighted inside the safari zone. There are no recent records of hyena movement inside Kali reserve and adjoining forests of Joida and Haliyal. Its a rare eye on it," said Director of Kali Tiger Reserve Nilesh Shinde.

The official pointed out that the Canara gazetteer has a mention of hyena animal but no recent records. The Forest Department has no released any photos or videos of the individual.

"The particular animal is being monitored by camera traps and direct sightings by the forest officials. The animal could have strayed from the forests of Dharwad district which have hyenas," the official added.

Few years ago, a tiger from neighbouring Maharashtra had travelled more than 150 km to reach Kali Tiger Reserve and its photographs traced its origin. Experts feel that the habitat of Kali reserve which ranges from semi evergreen to evergreen patches is not suitable for hyenas.

Hyenas are regularly sighted in Dharwad, Chitradurga, Gadag, Ballari, and Koppal districts. "The presence of hyena inside Kali reserve is an interesting development. Are there more than one hyena or its a strayed from some place else needs to be checked. Hyenas are scavengers and highly nocturnal in nature. They move closely around the hunts by the big predators and feed on the kills," explained a wildlife expert.

ASSET RECONSTRUCTION COMPANY (INDIA) LTD.

CIN No.: U65999MH2002PLC134884 • Website: www.arcil.co.in

Registered Office: The Ruby, 10th Floor, 29 Senapati Bapat Marg, Dadar (West), Mumbai - 400028. Tel. No.: 022-66581300.

DEMAND NOTICE

Whereas the Authorised Officer of Asset Reconstruction Company (India) Limited (acting in capacity as Trustee for the below mentioned Trusts) (hereinafter referred to as "ARCIL") is incorporated under the companies Act, 1956 and registered as an Asset Reconstruction Company with the Reserve Bank of India of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial assets and Enforcement of security interest Act, 2002 (hereinafter referred to as "the SARFAESI Act") and whereas the Borrower / Co-Borrowers as mentioned in Column No. 2 of the below mentioned chart obtained loan from the Original Lenders and whereas ARCIL has acquired the financial assets relating to the loan accounts mentioned herein below and whereas ARCIL being the secured creditor under the SARFAESI Act. And in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) of the said Act read with Rule 2 of the security interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued demand notice calling upon the Borrowers / Co-Borrowers as mentioned herein below, to repay the amount mentioned in the notices with further interest thereon within 60 days from the date of notice, but the notices could not be served upon some of them for various reasons.

Sr. No.	LAN. / Name of Original Lender / Demand Notice Date / Name of the Trust	Borrower / Co-Borrower Name / Guarantor	Total Outstanding in INR as per Demand Notice Date
1.	**LAN: FEDRAMSTL0502323** **Original Lender** Fedbank Financial Services Ltd. **Date of Demand Notice:** 15.09.2025 **Name of the Trust:** ARCIL – TRUST -2025 – 015	Keerthi Gowda (Borrower) Mrs. Kempajamma G (Co-Borrower)	Rs. 15,80,507.68/- as on 13.08.2025
	Description of Immovable Properties/Secured Assets: All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No. 213/116/2/157A, E-Katha No. 152900100500500213, Menasiganahalli, Boohalli Grama Panchayath, Virupakshapura Hobli, Channapatna Taluk, Ramangara District, measuring East to West 5.0596 meters and North to South 15.8496 meters in all, **bounded on: East by:** Property belongs to Chikkasiddagowda **West by:** Property belongs to Kenchagowda **North by:** Property belongs to Puttasiddagowda **South by:** Road		
2.	**LAN: FEDBNG0HL0499858** **Original Lender** Fedbank Financial Services Ltd. **Date of Demand Notice:** 15.09.2025 **Name of the Trust:** Arcil - Trust -2026 - 007	Jayaramu R (Borrower) Mrs. Sowmya (Co-borrower)	Rs. 19,49,184.53/- as on 13.08.2025
	Description of Immovable Properties/Secured Assets: All that piece and parcel of the property bearmg No. 345/ 130, E-Katha No. 152900203901820273, Hosadurga Village, Hosadurga Grama Panchayath, Kodihalli Hobli, Kana. Kapura Taluk, Ramangara, measuring East to West 1)4.60 2) (6.00+5.60)/ 2 meters North to South 1) 16.00 2) 24.00 meters, **bounded on: East:** Property belongs to Pavithra **West:** Property belongs to Arun Kumar **North:** Property belongs to Arun Kumar **South:** Road		

Notice, is therefore given to the Borrowers / Co-Borrowers, as mentioned herein above, calling upon them to make payment of the total outstanding amount as shown herein above, against the respective Borrower / Co-Borrower, within 60 days of publication of this notice. Failure to make payment of the total outstanding amount together with further interest by the respective Borrower / Co-Borrower, ARCIL shall be constrained to take u/s 13(4) for enforcement of security interest upon properties as described above,steps are also being taken for service of notice in other manners as prescribed under the Act and the rules made hereunder. You are put to notice that the said mortgage can be redeemed upon payment of the entire amount due together with costs, charges and expenses incurred by Arcil at any time before the date of publication of notice for public auction or private treaty for transfer by way of sale, as detailed in Section 13(8) of the SARFAESI Act.

Take note that in terms of S-13 (13) of the SARFAESI Act, you are hereby restrained from transferring and/or dealing with the Secured Properties in any manner by way of sale, lease or in any other manner.

Sd/-

Place: Ramangara — Authorised Officer

Date: 20.10.2025 — Asset Reconstruction Company (India) Ltd., (In capacity as Trustee)

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

MINOR IRRIGATION & GROUND WATER DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

M.I & G.W.D.D. DIVISION, VIJAYAPUR

No.EE/MID/VJP/AE-2/4702/TND/2025-26/2539 Date: 17.10.2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Executive Engineer, Minor Irrigation and Ground Water Development Department, Division Vijaypur invites work tenders through "E-Procurement" from eligible contractor on item rate Tender for following works as per KTPP Act-2000 and latest amendments.

4702 Major Works :- 1) Providing Irrigation facility to 588.00Ha. area of command in Sokanadagi and surrounding villages in Bagalkote Taluka, Bagalkote District by lifting water from Ghataprabha River, **Amount put to Tender Rs.1408.11 Lakhs**, EMD **Rs.14,09,000-00, Tender Period for the above work is Eighteen(18) Months including monsoon.**

Tender documents may be downloaded from Government of Karnataka E-Procurement website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home under login for Contractors from **18.10.2025.** Tenders may be submitted on electronically in E-Procurement portal up to **17-30 hrs.** on **03.11.2025.** Interested contractors information regarding works may be obtained from this office or e-Procurement helpdesk (Ph.No.080-25501216 & 080-25501227) upto **17-30 hrs.** on **31.10.2025.** Pre-bid meeting will be held on **28.10.2025** for work costing above 1.00Crore in the office of the Executive Engineer, MI&GWDD Division, Vijaypur. Tenders shall be quoted without adding GST and other details can be seen in the tender documents.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,

MI & GWDD Division, Vijayapur

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/408/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public at large are hereby informed that **Mr. Dipayan Mazumdar, S/0 Late Pulak Mazumdar, residing at No. 32, M.I.G. K.H.B. Colony, Koramangala Block-6, Bangalore-560095**, is the absolute owner of the property bearing **House Site No. 31, Old House List Katha No. 958, Mahadevapura Notified Area Katha No. 158, Present Mahadevapura CMC Katha No. 22, situated at B. Narayanapura Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk**, measuring 1391 Sq. feet, purchased under a **Sale Deed dated 30.07.2004, registered as Document No. 12182/2004** in the office of the Sub-Registrar concerned, executed by **Mr. M.G. Antony, S/o M.L. George, residing at No. 40, Chinnappanahalli, Marathahalli Post, Bangalore- 560 037.**

The said **original Sale Deed has been lost / misplaced** while taking photocopies of property documents at a xerox shop located in HRBR Layout, Bengaluru, which falls under the jurisdiction of the **Banaswadi Police Station.** Despite diligent search and enquiries, the said document could not be traced.

Public are hereby **cautioned not to deal with or rely upon the said document if found** and are requested to deliver the same, if traced, either to the undersigned at the address mentioned below or to the jurisdictional police station.

Bangalore,
Date: / / 2025

Mr. Dipayan Mazumdar,
S/0 Late Pulak Mazumdar,
residing at No. 32, M.I.G. K.H.B. Colony,
Koramangala Block-6,
Bangalore-560095

IN THE COURT OF 82ND ADDL. CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE (COMMERCIAL COURT) AT BANGALORE (CCH-83)

Com OS No. 1396/2023

BETWEEN : Smt. LEELA PRASED W/o. Sri. Shivaprasad, Aged about 62 years, Proprietor M/s. VIVEK TEXTILE PROCESSING, No.324/1, Hosur Road, Madivaala, BANGALORE-560068.

...PLAINTIFF

AND : 1. M/s. E-FABSEW PVT LTD, Represented by its Managing Director, No.4, 12th Cross, Muneshwara Layout, Harlakunte Kudlu Main Road, BANGALORE-560068.

2. Mr. HARSHA .G.S Managing Director, No.4, 12th Cross, Muneshwara Layout, Harlakunte, Kudlu Main Road, BANGALORE-560068.

...DEFENDANTS

SUMMONS/NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT NO. 1 & 2, UNDER ORDER V RULE 20 OF C.P.C

To, **1. M/s. E-FABSEW PVT LTD,** Represented by its Managing Director, No.4, 12th Cross, Muneshwara Layout, Harlakunte, Kudlu Main Road, BANGALORE-560068.

2. Mr. HARSHA .G.S Managing Director, No.4, 12th Cross, Muneshwara Layout, Harlakunte, Kudlu Main Road, BANGALORE-560068.

Whereas the plaintiffs above named filed a suit in COM O.S. 1396/2023 Against you, for the relief of Recovering the sum of Rs.9,53,857/- (Rupees Nine Lakhs Fifty Three Thousand and Eight Fifty Seven only) now the said suit pending on the file of City Civil and Session Judge (Commercial Court) at Bangalore (CCH-83), Hence you are hereby summoned to appear before this court in person or by pleader **on 10.11.2025 at 11.00 AM** to answer the same, falling which the suit will be disposed of ex-parte.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this 17.10.2025.

By Order of the Court, Sheristedar,
City Civil Court, Bengaluru.

Advocate for Plaintiff :
M.S. VISHWANATHA, Advocate
No. 1795, 40th A Cross, 9th Block,
Jayanagara, Bangalore-560041.

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SYMBOLIC POSSESSION NOTICE

ICICI Bank Branch Office: ICICI Bank Ltd. 4/10, Mythree Tower, Bommanhalli Hosur Main Road Bangalore- 560068

The Authorised ICICI Bank Officer under the Securitisation, Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued Demand Notices to the borrower(s) mentioned below, to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Notice.
Having failed to repay the amount, the Notice is issued to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described below, by exercising powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the below-mentioned dates. The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property. Any dealings with the property will be subject to charges of ICICI Bank Limited.

Sr. No.	Name of the Borrower(s)/ Loan Account Number	Description of Property/ Date of Symbolic Possession	Date of Demand Notice/ Amount in Demand Notice (Rs)	Name of Branch
1.	Aswini Kumar Swain/ Banalata Parida/ TBBNG00006906244	Schedule "A" Property All That Piece And Parcel of The Converted Property Bearing Sy. No.69/1A, Bbmp Khata No.2536/Sy No.69/1A, Municipal No.27, Measuring 1 Acre 26.08 Guntas, or 72418 Square Feet (Converted To The Residential Purpose In Vide Official Memorandum of Bearing No. Aln (Evi) Sr-152/2010-11, Dated 21/09/2010, Issued By The Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore), Situated At Munnekolala Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Presently Comes Under Administration And Jurisdiction of Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike At Bengaluru And Bounded on; East By : Property Belongs To Badige Annaiah; West By : Property Belongs To Padma; North By : Property Belongs To Papaiah Reddy & Pate! Krishna Reddy; South By : Road And Property Belonging To Naga Reddy & Muni Reddy; Schedule "B" Property All That Piece And Parcel of Residential Flat No. A102, In The First Floor, Measuring About 1340 Square Feet of Super Built-up Area, Containing Three Bed Rooms, Together With Rcc Roofing, Vitrified Flooring Along With one Covered Car Parking Space In The Stilt Floor, Including Proportionate Share In Common Areas Such As Passages, Lobbies, Staircase, Etc., Multistoried Residential Apartment Building Constructed In The Schedule 'A' Property, Building Known As "Sai Sun Shine" And 598.9 Square Feet of Undivided Rights, Title, And Interest In Schedule 'A' Property./ Date of Symbolic Possession on/17/10/2025.	22.05.2025 Rs. 59,62,138.00/-	Bangalore

The above-mentioned borrowers(s)/guarantors(s) is/are hereby issued a 30 day Notice to repay the amount, else the mortgaged properties will be sold after 30 days from the date of publishing this Notice, as per the provisions under Rules 8 and 9 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002.

Date: October 18, 2025
Place: Bangalore

Sincerely Authorised Officer
For ICICI Bank Ltd.

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK (A Scheduled Commercial Bank) | **Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.**

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF SARFAESI ACT, 2002.

Whereas you the below mentioned Borrower's, Co-Borrower's, Guarantor's and Mortgagors have availed loans from **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited,** by mortgaging your immovable properties. Consequent to default committed by you all, your loan account has been classified as **Non-performing Asset,** whereas **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** being a secured creditor under the Act, and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(2) of the said Act read with rule 2 of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued **Demand notice** calling upon the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors as mentioned in column No.2 to repay the amount mentioned in the notices with future interest thereon within **60 days** from the date of notice, but the notices could not be served on some of them for various reasons.

Sr. No.	Name of Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor	Loan Account No. & Loan Amount	Details of the Security to be enforced	Date of NPA & Demand Notice date	Amount Due in Rs. / as on
1	1) M/s. Meubles, Represented by it's Proprietor **Mr. Tariq Hussain, 2) Mr. Tariq Hussain,** Proprietor of **M/s. Meubles, Also at: M/s. Meubles, 3) Mrs. Juhi Saudha G**	Loan Account No. 30198645137550 Loan Amount: Rs.49,50,000/-	**Mortgaged Immovable Property: Item No.1:** Northern Portion out of Composite Property bearing Site Nos.105 and 108 in Khata No.76 Situated at Hommadevanahalli Village, Begur Hobli Bangalore South Taluk Bangalore, Coming under Doddatogur Grama Panchayath Begur, measuring East to West 40 Feet and North to South 45 Feet in all measuring 1800 Sq.ft and together **Bounded on the: On the East:** Site No.106 and 107, **On the West:** Road, **On the North:** Site No.109 & **On the South:** Remaining Portion Sold to Mrs. Mehrunnisa. **Item No.2:** All the piece and parcel of the property bearing Triangle Shape Site No.73 Old Katha No.77 New VP Katha No.346 Assessment No.77 situated at Hommadevanahallu Village Begur Hobli Bangalore South Taluk Presently comes under Doddathoguru Panchayath Limits, totally measuring 1358 Sq.ft and together **Bounded on the: On the East:** Kuppuswamy's property, **On the West:** Road, **On the North:** Site No.72 & **On the South:** Road. Along with One Square of AC sheet house built in thereon.	Date of NPA: 01-10-2025 Demand Notice Date: 16.10.2025	Rs.43,21,436.26 (Rupees Forty Three Lakh Twenty One Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Six and Twenty Six Paisa Only) as on 14-10-2025
2	1) Mr. Ramaradhya M J, 2) Mrs. Sowmya	Loan Account No. 47050440000132 47059410001064 Loan Amount: Rs.5,00,000/- Rs.2,50,000/-	**Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All the piece and parcel of the for Property Khaneshumari No.495/521, measuring East to West 30.4799 meters and North to South 21.3359 meters, situated at Chikkamudawadi Village, Chikkamudawadi Grama Panchayath, Kasaba Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara District and **Bounded on: East by:** Remaining Own Property, **West by:** Ramanagara Kanakapura Main Road, **North by:** Own Vacant Property and 8 Feet Road, **South by:** Remaining Own Property.	Date of NPA: 01-10-2025 Demand Notice Date: 16.10.2025	Rs.7,03,744.61 (Rupees Seven Lakh Three Thousand Seven Hundred Forty Four and Sixty One Paisa Only) due as on 12-10-2025
3	1) Mr. Venkatesha, 2) Mrs. Lakshmi	Loan Account No. 47040430000692 47049170025410 Loan Amount: Rs.3,00,000/- Rs.1,00,000/-	**Mortgaged Immovable Property:** All the piece and parcel of the Khaneshkumari No.14/04, property No.04, SL. No.04, Measuring East to West 4.5731and North to South 13.10975 situated at Borecolony Village, Ellegehalli Dhakle, Uyyumballi Grama Panchayath, Uyumballi Hobali, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara District and **Bounded on: Ellegahalli Dhakle, [Khaneshmari No.04/04]: On the East:** Remaining Own Property, **On the West:** House belongs to Shivalingaiah, **On the South:** House belongs to Srinivas, **On the North:** Road.	Date of NPA: 29-08-2025 Demand Notice Date: 16-10-2025	Rs.3,63,425.49 (Rupees Three Lakh Sixty Three Thousand Four Hundred Twenty Five and Forty Nine Paisa Only) due as on 07-10-2025

Notice is therefore given to the Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor & Mortgagor as mentioned in Column No.2, calling upon them to make payment of the aggregate amount as shown in column No.6, against all the respective Borrower/ Co-Borrower within **60 days** of Publication of this notice as the said amount is found payable in relation to the respective loan account as on the date shown in Column No. 6. It is made clear that if the aggregate amount together with future interest and other amounts which may become payable till the date of payment, is not paid, **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** shall be constrained to take appropriate action for enforcement of security interest upon properties as described in Column No.4. Please note that this publication is made without prejudice to such rights and remedies as are available to **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** against the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors of the said financials under the law, you are further requested to note that as per section 13(13) of the said act, you are restrained/ prohibited from disposing of or dealing with the above security or transferring by way of sale, lease or otherwise of the secured asset without prior consent of Secured Creditor.

Date: 20.10.2025, Place: Bangalore & Bangalore Rural — **Sd/- Authorised Officer, For Jana Small Finance Bank Limited**

AP CM N Chandrababu Naidu has said the upcoming Partnership Summit in Visakhapatnam on November 14 and 15, should go beyond mere signing MoUs with industrialists. He told officials to model the summit on the lines of the World Economic Forum in Davos

'B team of BJP': Revanth accuses BRS of secret pact in by-election

Says both parties conspired to obstruct implementation of 42% BC quota in local body polls

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Hyderabad

TELANGANA Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy accused the BRS of acting as the 'B team of the BJP' to split votes in the forthcoming Jubilee Hills Assembly byelection. He alleged that both parties conspired to obstruct the implementation of 42% reservations for Backward Classes in local body elections and colluded in the bypoll, similar to their secret pact during the Lok Sabha elections.

During the commemoration of the Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Yatra at Charminar on Sunday, Revanth presented the 'Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Award' to former Union Minister and member of the Congress Working Committee, Salman Khurshid. The award recognises his contributions to promoting harmony and unity. Reiterating his allegation of a secret understanding between

Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy at the Sadar Sammelan Utsav 2025 in Hyderabad on Sunday | EXPRESS

BRS and BJP before the Lok Sabha elections, Revanth said the transfer of 21% votes to BJP in those polls was enough to prove the BRS conspiracy in the state. He urged people to thwart BRS attempts to divide votes in the Jubilee Hills bypoll. Urging youth participation in politics, Revanth said an amendment to the Indian Constitution to reduce the minimum age to contest Assembly elections from 25 to 21 years was the need of the hour. He recalled how former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi lowered the voting age to 18, strengthening the country's democratic spirit.

Remembering Rajiv Gandhi's Sadbhavana Yatra, Revanth said, "We are organising this programme to continue the spirit of Rajiv Gandhi. I congratulate the organisers for presenting the Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Award to Salman Khurshid."

Revanth added that the Gandhi family had inspired the entire nation, saying the name 'Gandhi' was synonymous with India. "Iron Lady Indira Gandhi sacrificed her life to protect the integrity of the country. Rajiv Gandhi continued her legacy and sacrificed his life too. Inspired by Rajiv Gandhi, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi embarked on the Bharat Jodo Yatra across the country. The three generations of the Gandhi family were a big inspiration to the nation," he added.

Maoist-affected dists down to 11, says Kishan

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Hyderabad

UNION Minister G Kishan Reddy on Sunday said the number of districts in the country affected by Left Wing Extremism (LWE) has come down sharply from 125 to just 11 over the past decade.

In a media statement, Kishan said hundreds of Maoists have surrendered following Operation Kagar launched by the Union government, and that efforts are on to bring more of them back into the mainstream. He expressed confidence that there would be no Maoists left in the country by March 31, 2026.

He said over 300 Maoists have surrendered in the past three days, many of them Telugu-speaking. "Due to Maoist violence, development was long delayed in many parts of the country. Now, the Union government is focusing on improving people's wealth and health," he said.

Kishan said the Constitution drafted by Dr BR Ambedkar ensures peaceful coexistence and guarantees every citizen's rights. Expressing concern over the lack of schools, roads and hospitals in LWE-affected regions, he said these areas are now witnessing progress under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah. The focus, he added, is on youth welfare and improving educational opportunities.

Bandi warns TG politicians against Maoist links

Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar, in a post on X, warned Telangana politicians allegedly supporting armed groups while "preaching democracy on stage" to sever their ties or face exposure.

PROBE ON

Illegally stored crackers go off, 4 die in Chennai

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Chennai

FOUR men were killed on Sunday afternoon after an explosion caused allegedly by illegally stored firecrackers and country-made bombs at a house in Thandurai in Pattabiram in Chennai resulted in a portion of the structure collapsing and trapping them inside. While rescue personnel reached the spot within minutes, they were only able to retrieve the mens' remains.

Pattabiram police identified two of the deceased as Yasin (25) and Sunil Prakash (23) of Thiruninravur who are believed to have visited the house to buy crackers. The bodies of the other two men had been charred beyond recognition and had not yet been identified.

Officials said firecrackers, worth over ₹2 lakh, had been stored inside the house without any safety clearance.

Two women were killed and over 70 others injured in a serial accidents involving Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation buses near Bachanahalli in Malavalli taluk on Sunday evening. A KSRTC bus travelling from Kollegal to Bengaluru lost control after a tyre burst and collided head-on with another state transport bus heading to Kollegal from Malavalli. Moments later, a third transport bus rammed into the vehicles involved in the collision. A 60-year-old woman succumbed to her injuries at the Malavalli Government Hospital and a 50-year-old woman died while undergoing treatment at MIMS Hospital in Mandya

SIT to take Potti to other states to collect evidence

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @T'Puram

THE special investigation team (SIT) probing the Sabarimala gold theft case will take **Unnikrishnan Potti**, the prime accused in the case, to Chennai, Hyderabad and Bengaluru this week as part of evidence collection. Potti, who is in SIT custody, had revealed that the gold plates from the dwarapalaka idols and the door frames were taken to these cities under the garb of maintenance and electroplating.

The gold was removed from the sheets in a Chennai-based firm and to cover it up, 394g of gold was plated on it. During questioning, Potti is learnt to have tried to shift the blame on to others, including Devaswom Board members and staff, for the missing gold from the artefacts of the shrine. The SIT, in its remand report, had alleged that Potti swindled gold weighing about 2kg from the artefacts after taking them to Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.

Sources said the SIT will also

SABARIMALA GOLD ROW

record the statements of former Travancore Devaswom Board (TDB) presidents A Padmakumar and N Vasu and staff, including suspended devaswom official Murari Babu, this week. The SIT has already collected details regarding the alleged involvement of Babu and other staff in the case and they are likely to be arrested this week.

The cops are also scrutinising the documents that were retrieved from the ancestral home of Potti on Saturday, in the hope that it could shed light on the financial dealings involving the prime accused.

So far, only one person has been arrested in connection with the case. The SIT had registered two cases in total – one pertaining to the irregularities in the gold-cladded plates of the dwarapalaka idols, and another regarding the misappropriation of gold from the side frames and lintel of the temple's sreekovil. The probe had revealed that Potti, who worked as an assistant to the temple priest at Sabarimala between 2004 and 2008, was aware that the copper plates of the Dwarapalaka idols were cladded in gold in 1998.

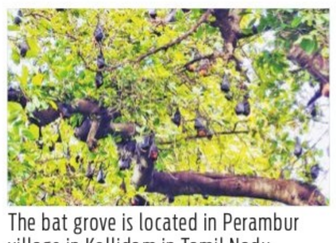
Crakcer parcel blasts at bus stand in AP, 4 critical

Parvathipuram: Four people were critically injured in an explosion that occurred at the APSRTC parcel office in the Parvathipuram RTC complex on Sunday, leaving four individuals critically injured. The incident took place when a parcel box, booked as "fancy goods" from Vizianagaram to Parvathipuram, unexpectedly detonated while being unloaded by APSRTC porter Reddy Ramesh. The injured were identified as APSRTC bus driver Telli Ravi, porter Reddy Ramesh, rickshaw driver Bonu Sundarrao, and Kintala Ramesh, who was at the parcel counter to collect a package while observing Ayyappa Deeksha.

Village ponders over turning bat haven into a tourism site

MOHAMED SALAHUDEEN B @ Mayiladuthurai

PERAMBUR, a village in Kollidam in Tamil Nadu, has kept its century-old vow of silence, no firecrackers, no burning of waste to protect hundreds of bats roosting in a sprawling banyan tree, located a kilometre away from the residential area. But the very tree that gave the village its identity has now become a point of quiet conflict among the villagers.



The bat grove is located in Perambur village in Kollidam in Tamil Nadu

While some residents want to promote the "bat grove" as an eco-tourism site to generate local jobs, others fear that drawing crowd could disturb the fragile ecosystem they have protected for generations. The villagers even consider the bats sacred. B Karthi, a local farmer, said, "We don't want to lose the village's identity. Even a little bit of smoke or noise will hurt the bats." Brema Palani (48), who moved to the village from Salem after marriage, said she has not burst a firecracker in 25 years. "It's not a restriction, but a tradition. We've all learned to respect it," she said. Despite the growing popularity among birdwatchers and tourists, the site has little to no road access, besides travelling by foot through knee-deep muddy fields and a three-foot-wide muddy path. The villagers claimed that a mud road to the site was destroyed when local farmers expanded their fields. "We have been asking officials to restore the road," said a farmer.

Sirkazhi Forest Range Officer B Ayub Khan said, "Laying a road straight to the tree will cause noise pollution. A better idea would be to build a road till 500 metres to the site and establish an observatory zone for visitors and researchers." The officer, however, added that no such plan has been drawn up yet, and any move would require talks with local landowners. For now, the village continues to choose silence over spectacle.

ODISHA MAN BEATS YOUTH TO DEATH FOR ATTEMPTING TO RAPE DAUGHTER

DHENKANAL (ODISHA): A man was detained for allegedly beating a youth to death for attempting to sexually assault his daughter at Mohanpasi village in Dhenkanal, Odisha, on Saturday. According to sources, on Saturday morning, 45-year-old Rupa Pinga along with his 18-year-old daughter went to the village pond to take bath. Meanwhile, 27-year-old Karunakar Behera was present near the pond. As the survivor went to attend nature's call, she was followed by Behera who attempted to sexually assault her. The girl screamed and hearing her voice, Pinga rushed to the spot. In a fit of rage, he picked up a stick and started beating Behera. In an attempt to flee, Behera fell into a nullah but was followed by Pinga who crashed his head with a stone. He died on the spot. **ENS**

BEFORE THE HON'BLE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -I,AT BANGALORE
BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House ,Rajbhavan Road, Bangalore -560 001
O.A. No.398/2022
BETWEEN : STATE BANK OF INDIA, RASMEC, Hosur Branch. **...Applicant**
AND
VENKATARAJU N., **...Defendant**
SUMMONS ISSUED TO DEFENDENT UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES 1993 BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION
To, Venkataraju N., S/o. Shri Nagaraju, No. 61, Aaduru Village, Aduru, Bengaluru East, Bengaluru - 560 047, Karnataka.
Also at : Keerthana Mobile Service/ Centre Shop, No. 117, Ramapura Village, Bidarahalli,
SLV Enterprises, ..Layout, 9th Cross, Basavanapura Road, Bengaluru-560 049.
Whereas the Applicant has instituted and application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 against the above defendants for recovery of a sum of **Rs.48,55,071/-** (Rupees Forty Eight Lakhs Fifty Five Thousand Seventy One Only) along with future interest @14.30% per annum with monthly rests from the date of filing of the Application till final repayment/satisfaction of the entire dues of the Applicant.
Take notice that you are hereby required to show cause within 30 days of service of summons through Paper Publication on **23.02.2026 at 11.a.m.** in person by a Pleader /advocate duly instructed as to why the relief's prayed for should not be granted. Take notice that in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in your absence.
Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal, on this the **28.07.2025**
By Order of the Tribunal
Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal -I.

BEFORE THE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -II AT BANGALORE
BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House ,Rajbhavan Road, Bangalore -560 001
O.A. No.619/2021
BETWEEN : BANK OF INDIA, Cantonment Branch, No. 49, Jyothi Mahal, St. Marks Road, Cantonment, Bangalore - 560 001 **...Applicant**
And
Sri Charan G. S., and Another **...Defendant**
SUMMONS ISSUED UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES 1993 BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION
To, Defendant/s:
2. M/s. Samrudhi Reality Ltd., [A company incorporated under the Provisions Act, 1956], having its Regd., Office at : No. 1, 2nd Floor, Tate Lane Richmond Road Cross, Bangalore - 560 025. Rep by its Authorised Signatory Mr. Yashodara.
Under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 against the defendants for recovery of a sum of **Rs.66,15,416.22 ps** (Rupees Sixty Six Lakhs Fifteen Thousand Four Hundred Sixteen and Twenty Two Paise Only) together with current and future interest and other reliefs.
The above mentioned defendants are required to appear before the Tribunal in person or through an advocate in support of their defense to show cause within 30 days or on **09.12.2025 at 10.30 a.m.** as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.
Take notice that in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in your absence.
Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal, on this the **17.10.2025**
By Order of the Tribunal
Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal -II.

BEFORE THE HON'BLE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -II, (KARNATAKA), AT BENGALURU
BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House, Rajbhavan Road, Bangalore - 560 001
O.A. No.1275/2024
Between: IDBI Bank Ltd, ...Applicant
And
Sri Santhoshkumar M. K. and Another **...Defendants**
NOTICE ISSUED UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES.
To: **Sri Santosh Kumar M. K.** aged about 40 years, S/o.Mallikarjunappa Kempannavar, Residing at Flat No. S-4, 2nd Floor Shivaganga Harmony Apartments V. V. Nagar, 2nd stage, Vasanthpura, Bengaluru - 560 062.
..... **DEFENDANTS No. 1**
Whereas, the Applicant Bank above named has instituted an Application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993, against you and others, for recovery of a sum of **Rs.20,21,760/-** (Rupees Twenty Lakhs Twenty One Thousand Seven hundred Sixty Only) only together with interest, costs and for other reliefs. All of you are directed to appear before this Hon'ble Tribunal in person or through an Advocate or duly authorized agent in support of your Defence, if any, and show cause within 30 days from the date of this publication or on or before **21-11-2025** at **10.30 A.M.** as to why the reliefs prayed for by the Applicant Bank against you, should not be granted.
Take Notice that in case of your default, the Applicant will be heard and the case determined in your absence.
Given under my hand and the Seal of this Tribunal on this 30th Day of July 2025.
Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal -II , Bangalore

BEFORE THE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II 4th FLOOR, BSNL BUILDING RAJBHAVAN ROAD, BENGALURU AT: BENGALURU
O.A. NO. 1647/2020
BETWEEN:-BANK OF INDIA A Body Corporate, Constituted under The Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertaking) Act of 1970 Having its head office at Star House, C-5, G-Block, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra East, Mumbai and a branch office Belagavi Amongst other places at Shahapur branch Dist: Belagavi. Through its Authorised Officer, Mr. S. V. Gopinatha Chief Manager Shahapur, Belagavi **...Applicant**
AND : 1. Smt. Nalini W/o. Jagadish Ankalgi R/o.: C/89, 8th Main, 5th Corss, Vasant Nagar, Bangalore 2
2. Shri. Jagadish S/o. Chandrashekhar Ankalgi R/o.: C/89, 8th Main, 5th Corss, Vasant Nagar, Bangalore 2 **3. Smt. Archana** W/o. Rajendra Ankalgi R/o. MIG 19, Mahantesh Nagar, opp. Old Police Station, Belagavi-590016
4. Shri. Rajendra S/o. Chandrashekhar Ankalgi R/o. MIG 19, Mahantesh Nagar, opp. Old Police Station, Belagavi -590016 **...Defendant;**
SUMMONS ISSUED UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993 TO THE DEFENDANT THROUGH PAPER PUBLICATION
To, Defendant ; 1. Smt. Nalini W/o. Jagadish Ankalgi R/o.: C/89, 8th Main, 5th Corss, Vasant Nagar, Bangalore 2 **2. Shri. Jagadish** S/o. Chandrashekhar Ankalgi R/o: C/89, 8th Main, 5th Corss, Vasant Nagar, Bangalore 2
Whereas, the applicant has instituted an application under section 19 of the Recovery of Debts due to the Banks and Financial Institutions Act of 1993, against you for recovery of a sum Rs. 24,14,683/- (Rupees Twenty Four Lakhs Fourteen Thousand Six Hundred and Eighty Three Only) together with current and future interest and other reliefs. You are hereby required to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication of the summons on or before **21/11/2025 at 10:30 AM** in the forencon in person or by a Pleader/Advocate duly instructed as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted.
Take notice that in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.
Given under my hand and the seal of this Hon'ble Tribunal on this the 17/10/2025.
By the Order of the Court
Signature of the Officer
Authorised to issue Summons
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II BANGALORE

BEFORE THE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II AT BANGALORE
BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001.
Original Application No. 1327/2021
BETWEEN: CANARA BANK ... APPLICANT
AND: SRI. NAGARAJU .N ... DEFENDANT
SUMMONS ISSUED TO DEFENDANT UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993
To, **SRI. NAGARAJU .N,** S/o Sri. Nanjappa, aged about 48 years, Residing at Doddatumakuru Village, VS Post, Doddaballapura - 561 203.
Whereas, an Application which has been filed by the Applicant above named under section 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993, praying to issue a Recovery Certificate against you to repay the Applicant Bank a sum of Rs. 67,03,558.63 (Rupees Sixty Seven Lakh Three Thousand Five Hundred and Fifty Eight and Sixty Three Paisa Only), with respect of the Account No. 4434795000085,along with future interest @13.20% per Annum as on 29.10.2021 and in additional penal interest of 2% per Annum, from 31.10.2021 to till the date of realization; together with interest at the contracted rate and also future interests, has been registered by this Tribunal.
You are directed to appear before the DRT II, Bangalore on **09/01/2026** at **11:00 A.M.,** in the forenoon in person or by a Pleader/Advocate duly instructed as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted.
Take Notice that in case of default, the Application will he heard and determined in your absence.
Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this 11/09/2025
By order of the Tribunal, Registrar, Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Bangalore.

BEFORE THE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II AT BANGALORE
BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001.
O.A. No. 1105/2021
BETWEEN: CANARA BANK, Vishwantahapura Branch, I Floor, Premises of M/S Vishwanatahapura, Co-Operative Milk Producers Society Ltd, Vishwanatahapura, Devanahalli Taluk - 562 110. ... **APPLICANT**
AND: SRI. A.R. HANUMANTHA RAO ... DEFENDANT
SUMMONS TO THE DEFENDANTS No.1 & 2 UNDER ORDER V RULE 20 (1A) AND (1-A) OF THE CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE
To, **SRI. A.R. HANUMANTHA RAO,** S/o Sri. V. Rama Rao, aged about 49 years, Residing at: Aruvanahalli Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk - 562 110.
WHEREAS the above-named Plaintiff Bank has instituted suit against you for recovery of a sum of Rs. 27,28,088.00 (Rupees Twenty-Seven Lakh Twenty-Eight Thousand Eighty-Eight only) as on 02.08.2021, Plus an interest @ 11.65 % Per Annum, plus unapplied interest, with respect of the Account Nos. 0475897005389 and 0475840011156 along with an additional penal interest @2% per Annum from the due date till the date of realization, to the plaintiff bank and to pay costs and for other consequential reliefs.
You are directed to appear before the DRT II, Bangalore on **12/12/2025** at **11:00 A.M.,** in the forenoon in person or by a Pleader/Advocate duly instructed as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted.
Take Notice that in case of default, the Application will he heard and determined in your absence.
Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this 11/09/2025
By order of the Tribunal, Registrar, Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Bangalore.

Karnataka Food & Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd.
(Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
No.16/I, MILLERS TANK BED AREA, BANGALORE-560 052
Ph: 080-2226 0932 / 2209 6555 / 2209 6512
E-mail:mdkfcsc123@yahoo.com
No:KFCSC/PROC/STOCKINSURANCE/01/2025-26 **Date:18.10.2025**
e-Tender Notice
Karnataka Food and Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd., Bangalore invites Tender No: KFCSCL/2025-26/ SE0116 for "Providing Insurance coverage to the assets of KFCSCL Warehouses, Stocks and other content under Fire, Burglary and Employees In-fidelity policies covering all the warehouses for a period of one year". The Tender form and other information can be obtained from the website:www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in
Sd/-
General Manager

IN THE COURT OF THE XIV ADDL CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE AT BANGALORE (CCH 28)
P & SC. No. 558/2025
BETWEEN: 1. Mr. Vijay Kumar Deshpande, S/o Late. Krishna Kant Deshpande, aged about 50 years, R/at No M 905, Purva Fountain Square, Varthur Main Road, VTC Marathahalli Post, Bangalore- 560 037. **2. Mr. Uday K. Deshpande,** S/o Late. Krishna Kant Deshpande, aged about 55 years, R/at C-405, Vertex Pride, Jaya Bharath Nagar, Nizampet Road, Behind Vijetha Super Market, Hyderabad, JNTU Kukat Pally, Andhra Pradesh- 500 085, **3. Mrs. Sujata Deshpande,** W/o late Mr. Sanjay Deshpande, aged about 48 years, Residing at C/o Eknath Sonbaji Mahajan 371, FCI Colony, near Vijay Chowk Changorabhath Raipur, Sunder Nagar, Chhattisgarh- 492 013. Petitioner No 2 and 3, Represented by its GPA holder Vijay Kumar Deshpande the 1st petitioner herein, S/o Late Krishna Kant Deshpande, aged about 50 years ... **PETITIONERS**
AND: -NIL- ... RESPONDENTS
PUBLIC NOTICE
Whereas, the above named petitioners have presented the petition before this Hon'ble court under Section 372 of Indian Succession Act, praying for grant of succession Certificate in their favour in respect of schedule properties mentioned hereunder belonging to Late Krishna Kant Deshpande and Late Mangala Deshpande, who are passed away on 10/12/2014 and 19-04-2018 and, who is the Parents of petitioner 1 and 2 and in-laws of the petitioner No.3.
Interested parties are hereby warned to appear in this court in person or by a pleader duly instructed on **19/11/2025** at **11:00 A.M.** in forenoon to show cause against the petition.
SCHEDULE 'A' SHARE CERTIFICATES
1. CLIENT ID-31384531 DPID-IN301549 26/10/2010 HDFC Bank Ltd Ujjain
SCHEDULE 'B' BANK STATEMENT DETAILS

ISIN	COMPANY NAME	Scrip Type	Balance
INE090A01021	ICICI BANK LTD	EQ new fv 2/-	1,100.000
INE758E1017	JIO FINANCIAL	EQ	160.000
INE019A01038	JSW STEEL LTD	EQ NEW FV 1/-	20.000
INE018A01030	LARSEN & TOURBO LTD	EQ NEW FV 2/-	1,350.000
INE848E01016	NHPC LTD	EQ	9195.000
INE013A01015	RELIANCE CAPITAL LTD	EQ	4.000
INE217K01011	RELIANCE HOME FINANCE LTD	EQ	4.000
INE002A01018	RELIANCE INDUSTRIES LTD	EQ	320.000
INE002A20018	RELIANCE INDUSTRIES LTD	REs-EQ PP RS.2.5	10.000
INE036A01016	RELIANCE INFRASTRUCTURE LTD	EQ	6.000
INE614G01033	RELIANCE POWER LTD	EQ NEW RS.10	20.000
INE481G01011	ULTRATECH CEMENT LTD	EQ	120.000

Given under my hand and seal of the Court on this 15/10/2025
By order of the Court, Senior Sheristedar, City Civil Court, Bengaluru

IDFC FIRST Bank Limited
(erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)
CIN : L65110TN2014PLC097792
Registered Office: KRM Towers, 8th Floor, Harrington Road, Chetpet, Chennai-600031. TEL: +91 44 4564 4000 | FAX: +91 44 4564 4022.
APPENDIX IV [Rule 8(1)] POSSESSION NOTICE (For immovable property)
Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the **IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a demand notice dated **31.07.2025** calling upon the borrower, co-borrowers and guarantors **1. LOKESH N, 2. MADHURITHA S**, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **INR 49,54,249.85/- (Rupees Forty Nine Lakh Fifty Four Thousand Two Hundred Forty Nine and Eighty Five Paise Only)** as on **30.07.2025** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said Demand notice.
The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken **Possession** of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under sub – section (4) of section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this **15th day of OCT 2025**.
The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of THE IDFC FIRST Bank Limited (erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited) for an amount of **INR 49,54,249.85/- (Rupees Forty Nine Lakh Fifty Four Thousand Two Hundred Forty Nine and Eighty Five Paise Only)** and interest thereon.
The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of sub – Section (8) Of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.
Description of the Immovable properties.
All That Piece And Parcel Of Residential Apartment/flat Bearing Unit No. Ff-102, Situated At First Floor, In The Building Known As "Sumukha Residency" Having Super Built Up Area Of 1357 Sq. Ft., Along With 354 Sq. Ft Of Undivided Share Of Land, And Having One Covered Car Parking Area Bearing No. Ff-102, In The Basement/stilt Floor, For Construction Of Khatha No. 1/1, Situated At Archalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Presently Under The Bbmp, Bangalore, Karnataka – 560061, And, **Bounded As: East:** Archalli Main Road **West:** Private Property **North:** Private Property **South:** Private Property
Sd/-
Authorised Officer
IDFC First Bank Limited
(erstwhile Capital First Limited and amalgamated with IDFC Bank Limited)
Date: 15-10-2025
Place: KARNATAKA
Loan Account No: 48951830

YOUR GUIDE TO SPICY LIVING
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EDITORIAL

"Peoples will be as before, the sheep sent to the slaughterhouses or to the meadows as it pleases the shepherds" — Henri La Fontaine

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.
— Ramnath Goenka

COLLEGIUM NOD TO CENTRE'S REQUEST RAISES QUESTIONS

THE Supreme Court collegium's decision to transfer Justice Atul Sreedharan from the Madhya Pradesh High Court to the Allahabad High Court—after the government asked it to rethink its earlier plan to move him to Chhattisgarh—has raised questions about judicial independence and executive interference. What stands out is the collegium's rare acknowledgement that the government had requested the change, while giving no explanation for why it agreed. That combination of transparency and silence leaves many questions unanswered.

Justice Sreedharan has built a reputation for taking firm and careful decisions in politically sensitive cases. At the Jammu & Kashmir High Court, he struck down multiple preventive detentions under the Public Safety Act, making it clear that administrative claims must be supported by solid evidence. In Madhya Pradesh, he took *suo motu* cognisance of a minister's derogatory remarks about an army officer, ordered the registration of an FIR, and pointed out lapses in how the state had handled the matter.

The transfer itself is significant. If Justice Sreedharan had gone to Chhattisgarh as first recommended, he would have been the second-most senior judge there, possibly positioning him for elevation as chief justice. At Allahabad, he will rank seventh, which will reduce his administrative influence. The collegium has not explained why it agreed to the government's request. Was it due to executive pressure, or a careful decision by the collegium to maintain working relations with the government?

There are parallels with Justice S Muralidhar. In 2020, the Centre notified the collegium's proposal to transfer him from the Delhi HC to the Punjab and Haryana HC hours after he had directed the police to file cases against politicians accused of alleged hate speeches linked to the Delhi riots. In 2022, the collegium recommended his transfer from the Orissa HC to the Madras HC. It recalled the order in April 2023 after the government's prolonged inaction, but refrained from questioning the Centre.

While it is unusual for the collegium to acknowledge the government's role in the Sreedharan case, the lack of reasoning makes it harder to determine whether the decision was a matter of prudence or pressure. It shows how sensitive judicial postings remain, especially when judges have handled politically charged cases, and how important it is to maintain both independence and credibility.

PROGRESSIVE POLICY, PREDICTABLE PITFALLS

KARNATAKA'S new menstrual leave policy for 2025 is being hailed as progressive: a day's paid leave a month for public and private sector workers. In India, where menstruation is still shrouded in discomfort and silence, the objective is to normalise menstruation in a gender-sensitive work environment. The policy aims to acknowledge that periods can involve pain, fatigue, and hygiene issues and create a workplace that doesn't pretend otherwise. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah called it "a step towards a more humane, understanding, and inclusive workplace". Karnataka is no pioneer. Bihar implemented its two-day leave policy in 1992. Kerala gives women workers in government ITIs two days' leave a month.

However, the feel-good language deserves pressure-testing. Other countries introduced menstrual leave long before India. Their experience suggests the road ahead is anything but smooth. Japan wrote menstrual leave into law in 1947. Surveys indicate the uptake is low. Many workers fear it makes them appear weak or can impact their careers. In South Korea, too, surveys show that some employers quietly discourage using it. Women who ask for it are sometimes painted as weak. In the UK and Italy, critics argue it reinforces negative stereotypes.

Women in Karnataka have hailed the move. In principle, it addresses the absenteeism versus presenteeism debate—that employees who are present may not perform to their full potential due to health issues. Many companies already discriminate against women in pay, roles, and responsibilities; this could extend to hiring, as employers might count 12 days of additional leave as a loss of work hours. It could make women seeking menstrual leave appear apologetic about male colleagues taking their workload, even though it is the employers' responsibility to arrange for lean staff days. The chauvinistic male backlash online in Karnataka shows how quickly the conversation can turn regressive, with men complaining of extra work or that women are becoming a "liability".

Moreover, the policy speaks to the organised workforce. It does not cover the unorganised section of women who often work through pain with no safety net. And implementation? Who will ensure compliance? What happens when employers quietly penalise women for availing the leave? If Karnataka wants to avoid repeating international mistakes, it must go beyond symbolism. Flexibility, including work-from-home options where possible, and enforceable protections against discrimination are basic requirements.

QUICK TAKE

HAZY AGE FILTERS

META'S latest move to protect teens on Instagram uses age prediction technology to automatically apply PG-13-style content restrictions. It may be proactive as projected, but not proper. Collecting and analysing children's online behaviour can be argued as amounting to the profiling of minors without explicit consent. This can overstep legal and ethical boundaries and risk undermining family autonomy over what children see. Overreliance on preset restrictions might make it harder for parents to intervene in nuanced cases. While Meta frames this as a safety feature, in reality, the company, rather than parents, decides what is "age-appropriate". True protection requires transparency, consent, and meaningful control for families, balancing protection and privacy.

Hopes for Bharat Future City, Hyderabad's planned satellite, are dim if the same incompetent bureaucrats and rent-seekers build it. The govt should first improve the facilities in Hyderabad

HOW NOT TO BUILD ANOTHER UGLY CITY ON SHINY PROMISES

RATHIN ROY
Distinguished professor at Kautilya School of Public Policy, Hyderabad; visiting senior fellow, Overseas Development Institute, London

THE PENINSULA

SOURAV ROY

TELANGANA Chief Minister Revanth Reddy recently commissioned Bharat Future City (BFC), next to present-day Hyderabad—aimed to be a "net zero smart city" that will "mirror New York and Tokyo". This is a laudable mission. However, sceptics would say that the entire objective of developing new cities in India is to create opportunities for rent-seeking. Liveability is only a marketing concern.

This is certainly true of all metropolitan cities that have grown in India in recent times. Pollution, chaotic traffic, appalling sanitation and garbage control, distressed housing conditions, and general ugliness are hallmarks of contemporary Indian cities.

The main wealth generator in any city is real estate appreciation, marked by the regular conversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural use, with the attendant corruption benefits to bureaucrats and politicians, and the largely unaccounted and untaxed capital gains from increase in land and property values, apart from infrastructure and liquor contracts. This is especially so in all peninsular cities where economic success has magnified this terribly unproductive accumulation. It is little wonder that Hyderabad's gold and jewellery shops, being vehicles to hold unaccountable and ill-gotten wealth, outnumber other modern establishments. Bengaluru, Chennai, and Kochi are not far behind.

But I do not think that the Telangana CM is impelled solely by rent-seeking motives. He has articulated a clear vision for a better sort of city. His interventions to protect Hyderabad's lakes reflect a genuine willingness to put political capital behind the cause of a better urban future. But I must strike some notes of caution which he must be mindful of and not get carried away, like many before him, by boastful future talk and an obsession with technical parameters.

First, who will execute the project? BFC is to be developed the time-honoured way, by an unelected development authority and an IAS-headed infrastructure corporation. It is common knowledge that, across India, such authorities chiefly engage in rent-seeking and are appalling at maintaining and prioritising the built environment and sustainability. For such quangos, capital expenditure is good as it brings a stream of rent-seeking benefits. Maintenance is low priority and service delivery is incidental. The result is the contemporary Indian city—poorly planned, unequal, and invested in rent-seeking.

Second, the same pool of people who have made a mess of Hyderabad will be tasked to execute BFC—the civil service, with IAS and IPS officers (for some reason, policemen in Telangana are considered transport and infrastructure experts) at the helm. This will only replicate the myriad troubles that Hyderabad faces, since these officers live in a gated world cut off from common urban citizens. They have zero expertise and terrible track record in creating world-class anything, except junkets to Davos.

To give just one example, the Telangana electricity distribution company has a hardworking workforce and no shortage of equipment. But due to substandard procurement and a management content with mediocre performance measured against the yardstick of Bihar or Uttar Pradesh, electricity goes off for 5-30 minutes once or twice daily in every neighbourhood except the residences of the CM and the governor.

This does not happen in any city worth the name—forget New York, not even in Bangkok, Johannesburg or Istanbul! Yet, it is normalised by a leadership that is accepting of mediocrity, whose parameter of success is "better than Bihar". How can such mediocre leaders, even if not corrupt, be entrusted with an excellence-seeking project?

Gated communities are popular in Indian metros because they offer things that are unavailable to the general citizenry—roads to walk on, green areas, backup power, and water supply. Walk out of these communities and you see a Hyderabad with almost no walkable pavements, rubbish overflowing on the streets, unnecessary water puddles, and power supply failures.

If BFS is to be the envy of New York, will this sort of basic stuff be universally available? What then will happen to the existing capital of Telangana? Will its standards rise to meet that of the new city? Who will do this? The same Hyderabad administration that is failing to do so now?

If the intention is to build BFS as a gated community, then, learning from Gachibowli and the financial district, the mediocrity problem does not go away. Will denizens of the new city will be people like us, who throw rubbish on the streets, are indifferent to noise pollution and building laws, do not follow traffic rules and drive like maniacs? Will BFS abolish caste and ethnic ghettos? Or will people like us Hyderabadis be excluded altogether from BFS, which will be populated, serviced and staffed by people from Japan and the US?

The point is simple. Just as Cyberabad has degenerated, BFS will be no automatic paradise. Urban planning has to focus less on rent-seeking and more on 100 percent service delivery—to commit to excellence rather than relatively superior mediocrity. Political leaders and social movements (not babus and policemen) will have to do what government cannot—foster a rules-based traffic system (learn from Mumbai and enforce helmets, for a start), social consciousness about rubbish disposal and spitting, 24/7 electricity and water supply, pavements to walk on, and other such things that are markers of excellence—not large, ugly, shiny high-rises, flyovers that flood whenever it rains, and *vaastu*-compliant villas.

The metric of success for BFS will be a transformed present-day Hyderabad—from Barkas to Gachibowli—with walkable pavements, universal power and water supply, decongested and law-abiding traffic, and enforced building and zoning regulations. No city in the world—think New York, Tokyo, Shanghai, Istanbul—has expanded successfully before fixing the existing urban space.

CM Revanth Reddy *garu*, I believe that you genuinely want to make your mark on history. But for this, you need to deliver in the Hyderabad you currently govern before 'lotus eating' about new satellites. You have the drive and the political mandate to do this. Do not make the same mistake as those before you and buy the technocratic hype that the bureaucrat-consultant ecosystem, hungry for new sources of extractive wealth accumulation, is feeding you.

(Views are personal)
(rathin100@gmail.com)

SONG FOR THE DIWALI GLOW

RENUKA NARAYANAN

FAITHLINE

HAPPY Diwali, dear readers. It's another opportunity to renew our lives with faith, hope, and charity. If we open our hearts to it, Diwali can refresh our spirits and energise us. I once saw a gallant example of faith and hope in Mumbai. A beggar carefully lit a single *diya* to illumine his patch of pavement. Equally powerful is a memory of Haridwar at Diwali. A gaunt, dusty farmer set a solitary *diya* afloat on the Ganga. His reverence and dignity stopped my heart. What pain and hardship did he want the Mother River and Mahalakshmi to heal? Or perhaps he offered thanks? Who won't feel moved by such poignant sights?

Food is integral to our festivals. As a fan of food history, I keep noticing interesting things about what seem to be festival must-haves. I read, for instance, that ghee helps heal stomach inflammations and ulcers. It is rich in butyric acid, "a monounsaturated fatty acid that reduces inflammatory conditions, reduces seepage of undigested food particles, and aids in repair of the mucosal wall".

This tidbit of medical information ties into a curious fact about a Vedic *paathshala* over 400 years old, which I visited in the ancient temple town of Kumbakonam in the Kaveri delta. There, I discovered that the arduous lifestyle required for learning the Vedas by heart came with its own health risks. The course is very rigorous even today in such old-style *paathshalas*—eight hours of lessons a day for eight years with only two holidays a year.

After eight years, a student must face a frightening examination: any line from the entire body of the Vedas can be flung at him for recitation and explanation. It takes 45 hours of non-stop chanting to do a full *paaraayanam* or Vedic recitation. To give the scholars stamina, day-old rice with buttermilk is the prescribed *paathshala* breakfast. The rest of the diet is equally austere, a world away from most of our lives. But the boys seemed upbeat, playing cricket energetically in their free time.

I learned that Vedic chanting generates so much heat in the body that students are prone to developing stomach ulcers, and a regular dose of ghee is the traditional remedy to protect their stomach linings. How did people know so much about ghee's health benefits back then?

Given the conflicted state of our world, there seems no healthier Diwali wish this year for people of all faiths than the Sanskrit song sung by M S Subbulakshmi at the UN General Assembly on October 23, 1966.

The song is attributed to the Kanchi Paramacharya, Chandrasekharendra Sarasvati (1894-1994). The Kanchi Paramacharya was the saintly personage whom the Dalai Lama described as "the only monk of the century" and whom heads of state, the king and queen of Spain, Japanese scholars, and the poorest and shyest of our people felt drawn to. Warring factions united in respecting him. So, the song came from a genuinely good person who was revered by a wide cross-section of classes, castes, creeds, and even nationalities.

The story goes that MS suddenly lost her voice prior to the UN concert. She prayed to the Kanchi Paramacharya from

EXPRESS

> This Diwali, a wish for people of all faiths could be a song by the Kanchi Paramacharya that M S Subbulakshmi memorably sang at the UN General Assembly in 1966. It says, 'Cultivate friendship and humility, which will conquer the hearts of everyone'

afar to save her as India's representative from the disgrace of a no-show, and recovered in time to sing and win a standing ovation for the song. We can hear it on YouTube and watch that sincere Indian lady way back then, draped in a sari with a bindi glowing on her forehead and a string of flowers tucked into her hair, singing with utter conviction.

The words are:

maitrimbhajata, akhilahritjaitrim/ atmavadevaparannapipashyata/ yudhamtyajata, spardhamtyajata/ tyajatapareshuakrama-kramanam/ jananiprithivikamadugharte / janakodevahsakaladayaluh/ damyata, datta, dayadhvamjanata/ shreyobhuyatsakalajananam.

They mean: 'Cultivate friendship and humility, which will conquer the hearts of everyone. Look upon others as akin to yourself, as your own. Renounce war, give up competition (jealousy), give up aggression; do not be aggressive.

Mother Earth gives us all that we desire. God is One and compassionate to all, as we should be. Practice restraint (*damyata*), generosity (*datta*), and compassion (*dayadhavam*), O people of the world. May all be happy and prosperous.'

The words *damyata*, *datta*, and *dayadhvam* appear in the *Brihadaranyaka Upanishad* in a story by Rishi Yajnavalkya, where they convey a message from the universe, contained in the roar of thunder.

Concerning the kind-hearted personality of the Kanchi Paramacharya, who was known for his divine insight, and for whom nobody was apparently too small or insignificant, here's a tiny true story re-shared for Diwali.

Sometime in the 1960s, a poor bangle-seller wandered from place to place selling his wares in villages and rural fairs. One day, he wandered into the temple town of Kanchipuram. Somehow, nobody seemed interested in buying anything. Tired and dejected by late afternoon, he sat down at the doorway of the Kanchi Kamakoti Math.

Deep within the math, the Kanchi Paramacharya suddenly told an aide, "Give the bangle-seller at the gate food and buttermilk. Ask him to wait. Tell the devotees who come for evening darshan to buy bangles for their womenfolk in Devi's honour." Of course, they did, and the bangle-seller went away feeling cherished and successful.

Not everyone may be in a position to perform great deeds of service, but good thoughts and small, sweet acts of loving kindness could be the lamps we light this Diwali. *(Views are personal)*
(shebaba09@gmail.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Tomahawk tickle

Ref: *Time for diplomacy to end Ukraine war, ease oil pain* (Oct 18). Trump eyeing the Tomahawk missile deal with Ukraine is disturbing, as arms race will not end the war but only aggravate the situation. If the war ends, good diplomacy can only smoothen the current global trade upheaval.
D Sethuraman, Chennai

Juxtaposing jumbos

Ref: *Protect elephants for a healthier ecosystem* (Oct 18). As aptly emphasised, governments, state and Centre alike through all possible legislation. The country's wild heritage, health of its lands, and the beauty forests—all depend upon our delicate wildlife. I have strong hopes that the nation can rise together for our jumbos too, as they did for stray dogs.
Kalaimani K, Chennai

Census challenges

Ref: *Census system test for first phase from Nov 10* (Oct 18). The challenges faced by a census enumerator in house numbering, houselisting, and in the collection of data in sprawling metropolitan cities like Chennai, Madurai and Coimbatore will be different from those in rural and forest areas. The Census pre-test could therefore include sample areas from these cities as well to get better on-field feedback.
N Rama Rao, email

Breached trust

Ref: *Sabarimala gold row* (Oct 18). When protectors of revered places of worship turn into perpetrators, it is a severe breach of trust and a travesty of faith. Such deplorable acts may have temporarily taken some shine off the holy shrine, but do not bereave it of its impeccable sanctity.
Biju C Mathew, Thiruvananthapuram

BSNL perseveres

Ref: *BSNL showing signs of revival* (Oct 18). The agency can bounce back to its glory if there is determination. Presently, the BSNL presumably adds to its customer base mainly because of its wider network and less expensive packages, though a lack of adequate signal strengths are often issues.
Jiji Panicker K, email

New heights

Ref: *Rajnath praises 'self-reliance'* (Oct 18). The void created by the decommissioned 'flying coffins', MiG-21s, are now ready to be filled by our own homegrown cutting-edge components. Now there will only be 'shining stars' ruling the Indian skies.
Indra Getzy David, Tirunelveli

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Alok Sharma @Aloksharmaaicc
Every ally who joins hands with the BJP ultimately finds themselves deceived, because their history has been not of honoring partnerships, but of ending them.

Amit Shah @AmitShah
Those who pamper infiltrators to create vote banks feel pain from SIR. It should be there across the entire country, and selected infiltrators should be deleted from the voter list.

Raj Thackeray @RajThackeray
Whether you vote or not, the match is already fixed. Such elections are an insult to the voters... Elections must be held with the perspective that the voting process is genuine.

NMC nod for 10,650 MBBS seats and 41 new colleges

Move after PM's promise to create 75K new medical seats in 5 years

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

THE National Medical Commission (NMC) has approved 10,650 new MBBS seats and 41 new medical colleges for the academic year 2025-26, officials said. With the addition of the 41 new medical colleges, the total number has gone up to 816.

The move is to align with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision to create as many as 75,000 new medical seats in the next five years.

The NMC received 170 applications for expanding undergraduate (UG) seats, comprising 41 from government colleges and 129 from private institutions. A total of 10,650 MBBS seats were given approval.

The increase, officials said, will raise the overall MBBS seat count in the country to 1,37,600 for the 2025-26 academic year. This includes seats in Institutes of National Importance (INI).

For postgraduate (PG) courses, the NMC had received over 3,500 applications for new and renewed seats. With the approval, the total PG seats in the country have gone up to 67,000.

The overall increase in both UG and PG seats this year will be approximately 15,000.

In his Independence Day speech, the PM had expressed his dismay and disbelief over the fact that Indian students are forced to seek medical education abroad. He had then announced that his government plans to take a major initiative in this direction by creating 75,000 new medical seats across the country in five years.

Officials said the initiative will significantly augment the undergraduate medical capacity; availability of specialist doctors by creating additional postgraduate seats; and enable introduction of new specialties across government medical institutions.

Moreover, this will strengthen the overall availability of doctors in the country, which will thereby improve access to quality healthcare, especially in underserved areas.

Officials said that in the last one decade, India has added over 69,352 new MBBS seats registering a growth of 127%. Similarly, during this period 43,041 PG seats were added showing an impressive growth of 143%.

New colleges approved to match demand, access

In spite of this notable growth in the number of medical seats, in certain regions there is a need to enhance capacities to match the demand, access and affordability of healthcare, and thus, new medical colleges have been approved in areas which are still inaccessible, officials added.

After syrup deaths, govt plans to make QR code must to fight fake drugs

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

IN the wake of deaths of over 20 children due to substandard cough syrups in Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, the centre plans to mandate barcoding and QR code-based traceability for vaccines, antimicrobials, narcotic and psychotropic drugs, and anticancer medicines.

According to the notification issued by the Union Health Ministry on October 16, certain rules will be amended under the Drugs Rules, 1945. It said the amendments have been proposed after consulting the Drugs Technical Advisory Board.

Welcoming the move, The All India Organisation of Chemists and Druggists, said it is a good anti-counterfeiting measure. AIOCD President J S Shinde and General Secretary Rajiv Singhal said that this progressive step will greatly strengthen the fight against counterfeit and substandard medicines and enhance patient confidence in the supply chain.

"Ensuring traceability from manufacturer to consumer is essential to protect public health and uphold the integrity of the pharmaceutical sector," they said in a statement.

Noting that they will fully support the initiative, AIOCD said they assure the government complete cooperation through its nationwide network of over 12 lakh chemists for its smooth and effective implementation.

"The organisation also urges that adequate training, awareness, and technical support be provided to retailers and distributors, and that the government work in close coordination with the country's chemists to ensure that the system functions efficiently and effectively at all levels," the statement said.

"Together, we can make India's medicine supply chain more transparent, trustworthy, and globally benchmarked for quality and safety," they added.

Ensuring traceability from manufacturer to consumer is essential to protect public health and uphold the integrity of the pharmaceutical sector

All India Organisation of Chemists and Druggists

INSIDER TRACK

Wait for new finance secretary

Nearly three months after Ajay Seth moved to the IRDAI, the finance secretary's post remains vacant. With the Budget exercise approaching, the absence is notable. For now, Cabinet Secretary T V Somanathan — himself a former Finance Secretary — is informally filling the gap. According to murmurs in North Block corridors, he is now unofficially donning two hats. Having previously served as Finance Secretary, Somanathan seems to have been quietly stepping back into familiar territory. He has been coordinating across the six departments under the finance ministry: Economic Affairs, Revenue, Expenditure, Financial Services, DIPAM, and DPE. The role isn't statutory and is based on seniority, but it carries weight — the Finance Secretary is the key internal coordinator, principal advisor to the Finance Minister, and the only officer authorised to sign the one-rupee note. With budget preparations underway, the question is whether a formal appointment will be made soon or whether Somanathan continues in a dual role.

Turf wars at ICAR? DG steps in

All is not smooth inside the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Reports of internal factions and unilateral decision-making reached the top after some regional centres began signing MoUs and making major decisions without consulting headquarters. Following a reminder from the Cabinet Secretary on enforcing administrative discipline, DG Mangi Lal Jat has issued a plan, gently but firmly nudging everyone back in line. He is asking officials to route major actions through the Assistant Director General before proceeding. The message is clear: Follow the chain of command, play as a team, and maybe leave the solo performances to the scientists. For an organisation of ICAR's size, a little central coordination might not be a bad call.

Congress tests new script in Bihar

In Bihar, the Congress is trying to reclaim lost ground while staying in the alliance on its own terms. Insiders call it the "Bihar model," though no one's spelling out the fine print just yet. It's signalling—no riding pillion anymore. "We are in alliance, but on our own terms," a Congress leader said, hinting at the party's decision to skip endorsing Tejashwi Yadav as the CM face early. Leaders say the party is reviving its traditional base — Muslims, upper castes (especially Brahmins and Bhumihars), and Scheduled Castes.At the same time, the RJD is seeing something once unthinkable: upper-caste Bhumihars joining the party. After decades of frosty relations, the Bhumihars — a politically influential and once-RJD-wary upper caste — are slowly warming up to the party. Some are even joining it. Enter Suraj Bhan Singh a.k.a. Dada — a notable Bhumihar name — and other leaders like Bogo Singh from Begusarai and Sanjeev Kumar from Khagaria. Even Shivani Shukla, daughter of jailed former MLA Munna Shukla, is now contesting on an RJD ticket. An RJD leader put it bluntly: the party is no longer just MY (Muslim-Yadav) but "BMY — and maybe beyond. A-to-Z ban gaya hai." The symbolism hasn't gone unnoticed. The BJP and JD(U) are watching and fielding their own Bhumihar candidates.

Good lawyers, bad case: CJI's quip

A Supreme Court hearing saw a moment of courtroom humour when an advocate, arguing a cheating case, tried to flatter the bench led by Chief Justice of India B R Gavai by calling them "good and super judges". CJI Gavai quipped: "Many good lawyers make bad judges, and many bad lawyers make good judges." Then, smiling at the counsel, he said: "You are a good lawyer, but this case doesn't warrant allowing your prayers." The bench declined relief and allowed the advocate to withdraw the plea — no success for the client, but a line the lawyer is unlikely to forget.

'Substantial risks': Cong flags concerns on foreign firms acquiring banks

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

TAKING a swipe at the Modi government's economic policy, the Congress on Sunday said foreign firms gradually being allowed to acquire Indian banks was "imprudent" as it poses substantial risks.

The grand old party also reminded the BJP that the Jan Sangh had criticized then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi for not nationalizing foreign banks in July 1969.

Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh's assertion came after Emirates NBD Bank, the second largest in the UAE, expressed interest in acquiring a majority 60% stake in RBL Bank for ₹26,853 crore — the biggest ever financial sector deal in value terms.

"Foreign firms are gradually being allowed to acquire Indian banks. These imprudent moves pose substantial risks," Ramesh said on X.

First, Laxmi Vilas Bank was acquired by Singapore's DBS Group and the Catholic Syrian Bank was acquired by Canada's Fairfax, he said.

"Third, Japan's Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation took over Yes Bank. Now comes news that Dubai's Emirates NBD is acquiring RBL Bank," the Congress leader said.

"And, of course, India's first full privatization of a public sector bank is expected to be completed in this financial year. This is the sale of IDBI Bank," he added.

Just as a matter of historical interest, Ramesh said, the Jan Sangh had criticised Indira Gandhi for not nationalising foreign banks in July 1969.

He also shared a news report dated December 28, 1969, after the Jan Sangh's meeting in Patna the previous day in which it had called for the takeover of all big foreign firms. The acquisition plan of Emirates NBD Bank to hold a controlling stake in RBL Bank through an infusion of approximately USD 3 billion (about ₹26,850 crore) marks the largest-ever foreign direct investment in India's financial services sector.

Op Sindoor on till objectives achieved, says Army Chief

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

ARMY Chief General Upendra Dwivedi has announced that the ongoing military action, dubbed 'Operation Sindoor 1.0,' has not ceased, although the firing has paused temporarily.

The operation will continue until its objectives are met, and the Indian Army is actively preparing for a potential 'Operation Sindoor 2.0.'

Speaking to troops in the border district of Pithorgarh during his Diwali visit, General Dwivedi emphasised the Army's pivotal role beyond combat. "The Army has always been at the forefront of nation-building," the Chief stated.

"The Indian Army must take the lead in nation-building. We need to become the first pillar of nation-building and work closely with the public."

Highlighting the force's effective response during recent crises, the Army Chief cited exemplary work in disaster relief operations in areas like Dharali and Tharali in Uttarakhand, as well as the Amarnath rescue missions.

He urged jawans to strive to be leaders admired by all. General Dwivedi stressed the importance of physical fitness and technological proficiency.

"Every soldier must achieve a certain standard," he added. "We have kept options open for everyone—whether they want to go to the gym, play sports, or take on adventure activities."

In a significant policy shift noted by the Chief, physical fitness testing standards have been unified. "Previously, tests were separate for men and women. When fighting a single battle, why should the tests be different? Therefore, the tests have been made uniform for both," he explained.

Addressing veterans, General Dwivedi confirmed plans to establish the 50th 'Naman Station' (a welfare centre) and assured that all issues faced by veterans, including pension and loan needs, would be resolved to alleviate their concerns. "We have launched a telemedicine facility," he added, noting that senior military leadership recently met with Central, State, and District Sainik Boards to address their needs.

"The Defence Minister has doubled the grant amount for welfare, particularly for those below the poverty line or for marital matters. This is how we honour the service they rendered while in the Army," the Chief noted, confirming enhanced benefits across canteens and medical facilities, with more concessions planned for the future.

Bhagwat calls for freeing minds from influence of Macaulay edu system

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat, speaking on Sunday in Mumbai at the launch event of the volume Arya Yug, highlighted the significance of the Arya era and asserted that Indians (Aryans) had historically travelled across the world, maintaining good communication channels. However, he emphasised, "Our culture has never been of conquering or invading, rather we connected the world."

Urging Indians to return to the country's indigenous tradition of knowledge, Bhagwat said that every Bharatiya (Indian) must rid themselves of the mindset or intellect influenced by the Macaulay model of education. "Our tradition of knowledge is better and helps us understand the significance of knowledge," he remarked. "We educated in the Macaulay Knowledge System and our intellcts and mind carry the influence of foreign," he said.

Emphasising the need to adopt the essence of India's own system of knowledge, he stated that the Indian education system was originally designed by sages and educationists of ancient India, keeping in mind the culture and communication of Bharat.

Bhagwat also pointed out that if the rest of the world has made progress, it is important to understand the reasons behind that advancement. He further stressed that India should be open to learning from the good found elsewhere, while also being mindful to discard whatever is not useful. He advised that individuals in India should strive to go beyond the "physical brain" in order to perceive the essence of universal "truth" and spirit.

At the launch of the Arya Yug Vishay Kosh encyclopaedia, in the presence of a gathering of scholars, Bhagwat also criticised the historical plundering of India by foreign invaders, which he said left scars on the collective mindset. "Our ancestors travelled from Mexico to Siberia and taught science and culture to the world. They didn't convert anyone or conquer. They carried sadhbhavna (goodwill) and a message of unity," he asserted.

While advocating for embracing Indian ideology, he also cautioned against overconfidence in any pursuit. He warned that such overconfidence could lead people to distance themselves from their original identity and culture.

Praising India's cosmopolitan culture and the spirit of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, the RSS chief remarked that the world now looks to India with hope and eagerness to learn.

Prasar Bharati to monetise TV, radio archives

PARVEZ SULTAN @ New Delhi

PUBLIC broadcaster Prasar Bharati is set to finalise its Content Syndication Policy 2025 by mid-November, following a round of consultations with key industry stakeholders. The policy aims to monetise and expand access to the broadcaster's extensive archive of television and radio content from Doordarshan and All India Radio (Akashvani), while also enabling strategic collaborations across domestic and global platforms.

"We are going to organise an industry consultation in the next 10–12 days. I think by mid-November, we will complete the process," Gaurav Dwivedi, CEO of Prasar Bharati, told this newspaper. A draft policy and a detailed consultation note were circulated last month to Over-The-Top (OTT) platforms, broadcasters, radio networks, telecom operators and content aggregators, inviting feedback on various monetisation models and regulatory frameworks.

The policy proposes to categorise content syndication into three segments — Free or Public, Commercial, and International. Under the Free or Public category, government departments, educational institutions, and community media may accessarchival content for non-commercial, educational, and awareness purposes,with mandatory attribution. Any modification to the content will require prior approval.

The Commercial category covers OTT platforms, television channels, aggregators, telecom companies and in-flight entertainment providers, who will be able to access content through paid licensing, revenue-share agreements or bundled offerings. Exclusive rights may be granted on a case-by-case basis, depending onthe terms of the agreement.

International syndication is aimed at foreign broadcasters, diaspora platforms and cultural organisations as part of India's cultural diplomacy efforts. Theserights may be issued as global or territory-specific, and on exclusive or non-exclusive terms.

Prasar Bharati is also exploring flexible monetisation models such as flat-fee licensing, hybrid minimum guarantee plus revenue share and barter-based content exchanges. The policy encourages the use of new-age tools such as AI-driven advertising, blockchain-enabled royalty tracking and addressable TV to ensure greater transparency and efficiency.

As per the draft, a Syndication Review Committee (SRC) will be established to vet all syndication applications to ensure compliance with editorial, legal and financial norms. It also includes detailed annexures outlining rate cards, branding guidelines, metadata templates, and a list of prohibited use cases—such as political advertising and unauthorised use of content for AI training.

Representative Image

Policy encourages use of new-age tools

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COUGHED UP

A joint team of police and excise department officials seized banned cough syrup worth ₹3 crore and arrested three accused in this regard in UP's Sonbhadra, an official said on Sunday.

2 HURT AS CHAWL SLAB COLLAPSES IN THANE

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	34	24	Mumbai	33	28
Bhopal	30	20	Panaji	34	27
Jaipur	31	21	Patna	32	26
Amritsar	31	18	Lucknow	33	22
Chennai	29	27	Port Blair	31	27
Kolkata	34	26	Imphal	29	19
Srinagar	22	09	Chandigarh	30	18

• ADR report says regional parties in Bihar exhibit between 30% and 40% dynasticism • Split in minority votes a worry for Grand Alliance

Return of dynasts on poll turf

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @ New Delhi

IN the electoral politics of a state like Bihar, which despite its lack of significant economic or educational development, remains one of India's most politically conscious regions, even today it looks difficult to overlook the continuing influence of dynastic dominance when fielding candidates.

This Assembly election too, the state's political landscape is heavily shaped by a significant number of leaders in the fray with dynastic background from across party lines, including the BJP and the RJD.

Contrary to what PM Narendra Modi once remarked during a 2024 parliamentary debate—"Parties being run by families are a threat to democracy"—Bihar's politics continues to be marked by the dominance of dynastic figures. A noticeable number of candidates from politically well-known families are contesting on the tickets of all major parties, including the BJP and the RJD.

The fate of these dynasts will be sealed in the EVMs on November 6 and 11 determining whether dynasticism will continue or whether the people, still grappling with poverty, unemployment, and migration for livelihood, in Bihar will reject them.

Currently no party can claim to have avoided fielding dynasts in the upcoming elections. "With fewer or greater numbers, parties have relied upon those candidates who owe a long dynastic connection and inherit political legacies from their ancestors, fathers, husbands or other family members," remarked

Candidates from political families picked by parties

Contrary to what PM Modi said during a 2024 parliamentary debate—"Parties being run by families are a threat to democracy"—Bihar's politics continues to be marked by the dominance of dynastic figures. A noticeable number of candidates from politically well-known families are contesting on the tickets of all major parties, including the BJP and the RJD. The fate of these dynasts will be sealed in the EVMs on November 6 and 11 determining whether dynasticism will continue.

Arun Kumar Pandey, a noted Bihar-based political observer. Prominent among them are RJD's Tejashwi Yadav (son of former CMs Lalu Prasad Yadav and Rabri Devi, and the political heir of the RJD), BJP's Samrat Choudhary (incumbent Dy CM and son of exminister Shakuni Choudhary), Shivani Shukla (daughter of jailed former MLA Munna Shukla, contesting on an RJD ticket for the first time), and Osma Shahab (son of the late Mohammad Shahabuddin).

Tejashwi Yadav, the RJD MLA from Raghopur in Vaishali district, is contesting again, while BJP's Nitin Nabin is in the fray from Patna's urban Bankipore assembly seat. Sanjeev Chaurasia is contesting from the Digha constituency on a BJP ticket, and Rahul Tiwary from Shahpur, while Shivani Shukla is contesting from Lalganj—both on RJD tickets.

A young voter from Patna, Rupesh Kumar, currently pursuing an MBA and aspiring to contest the next Lok Sabha election in 2029, remarked, "Dynastic politics in Bihar is as rooted as casteism. Putting a complete check on it is impossible as many of the regional parties are run by families. But what the chiefs of all these parties should consider is the merit of candidates before giving them tickets". Notably, a recent report by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) states that regional parties such as the RJD and JD(U) in Bihar exhibit between 30% and 40% dynasticism.

The report observes, "Dynastic politics divides society by creating a birth-based ruling class." It further notes, "The prevalence of dynastic politics is also attributed to India's strong family tradition that justifies dynasts in the eyes of voters." The ADR has recently analysed sitting MPs, MLAs, and MLCs of Bihar and found that 96 of them have a dynastic background.

Overall, ADR has examined 5,204 sitting MPs, MLAs, and MLCs nationwide, identifying1,106 as coming from dynastic political families. Regionally, Uttar Pradesh recorded the highest number of dynastic politicians—141 out of 604 MPs, MLAs, and MLCs analysed—followed by Maharashtra, with 129 out of 403 suchrepresentatives having dynastic backgrounds.

DECIDE

Owaisi's party fields 25, may play spoilsport for Oppn bloc in Seemanchal

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

SETTING the stage for a multicornered contest, the Asaduddin Owaisi-led AIMIM has announced 25 candidates on Sunday. With this, the political landscape, already marked by fragmented Opposition and regional power struggles, is expected to witness more intense contests across constituencies.

The list, which includes AIMIM state president Akhtarul Iman, who is also the party's lone MLA in Bihar, was shared on X (formerly Twitter).

"We are happy to announce the list of AIMIM candidates for the upcoming Bihar elections. The candidates were finalised by AIMIM's Bihar unit in consultation with the party's national leadership. Inshallah, we will be a voice of justice for Bihar's weakest and most neglected," the party's tweet read.

Iman has been renominated from Amour, where 2020 runnerup Saba Zafar was replaced by Sabir Ali, a former Rajya Sabha MP who was expelled from the party 11 years ago by CM Nitish Kumar's JD(U).

Most of the seats contested by the party fall in the Seemanchal region, which has a high percentage of the Muslim population. The AIMIM's entry

adds to the worries for the Opposition alliance, which is grappling with internal conflicts and disarray over seat-sharing. A senior Congress leader told this paper that Owaisi's party will divide the minority vote bank in constituencies where the Opposition parties are heavily reliant on it.

The leader points out that the grand alliance will face threats in constituencies like Bahadurganj, Kishanganj, Thakurganj and Araria, which have a significant Muslim population. The Congress had won the Kishanganj seat in the 2020 Assembly polls by a narrow margin of 1,381 votes. The party, however, secured the Araria seat with a convincing margin of around 47,000 votes, while AIMIM got 8,000 votes.

Though Owaisi was keen on joining the INDIA bloc, he was spurned by the alliance.

LUCKNOW DIARY

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12 teams behind Viksit UP-2047 vision docu

Efforts are on to prepare the Viksit UP-2047 vision document, which may take a week or two. A final document will be out by December-end following consultations. At least 12 teams are working almost round the clock to evaluate a large number of suggestions to be incorporated in the document. As many as 36 lakh suggestions have been received so far. The teams have been asked to shortlist 50-60 suggestions, taking three to five each from 12 sectors, such as animal husbandry, industrial development, IT and tourism. The state government proposes to reward three best suggestions from every district along with the five best ones at the state level.

Stage set for display of country's naval history

With 20% of the physical work on "Nausena Shaurya Sangrahalaya" (Naval Museum)—being constructed by the UP govt in collaboration with the Indian Navy—now complete, the focus is now on the transportation of naval artefacts for display. The museum, being built on a sprawling 15,800 sqm of land near Ekana Stadium in Lucknow at an outlay of ₹23 crore, will show relics from the decommissioned INS Gomati. A TU-142 naval aircraft and an SK-42B helicopter are also being relocated to the museum. Once logistics are worked out, the two aircraft would be transported from INS Rajali, the Indian Naval Air station in Tamil Nadu's Arakkonam.

Snubbed by allies, SBSP wooing Azam Khan

P Rajbhar's Suheldev Bhartiya Samaj Party (SBSP), which has charted its own course over 153 seats in poll-bound Bihar after being denied a single seat by allies, is trying to woo Azam Khan, the Samajwadi Party stalwart. SBSP national general secretary and Rajbhar's son Arvind is considering visiting Rampur to meet Azam and convince him to join his party. The Rajbhars believe that leaders who work on the ground should not be sidelined and that dialogue with them should continue. Rajbhar Sr, miffed with the attitude of the BJP and other allies over the Bihar polls, has warned that if the NDA did not want SBSP in Bihar, the party would fight alone.

Giriraj sparks row with remarks on Muslims, says 'their votes not required'

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

UNION minister and BJP firebrand leader Giriraj Singh has once again courted controversy by terming the minority community 'namak haraams' (ungrateful) and contended that he does not need their votes to win the election.

Addressing a rally in Bihar's Arwal district, Giriraj recalled his conversation with a Muslim 'Maulvi' who admitted to be benefiting from the Centre's schemes. "When I asked him whether he had voted for me, he replied in the affirmative but when I asked him to swear on Kudha (God), he refused. Muslims take benefits of all Central schemes but don't vote for us. Such people are called 'namak haraam'," he asserted.

Later, defending his statement in Begusarai, the former minister said, "Islam says that consuming free food is 'haram'. Are they not taking a 5 kg ration for free? Did both Hindus and Muslims not get Pradhanmantri Awas? Did both Hindus and Muslims not get toilets? Was there any discrimination in Nal-Jal Yojna, Gas cylinder?' The NDA government works for every section of society, but Muslims

refrain from voting for the BJP, he remarked.

The union minister's remarks ahead of election, however, evoked sharp reactions from Opposition parties. Lashing out at Begusarai MP's remark, RJD spokesperson Mritunjay Tiwari alleged that BJP leaders indulging in Hindu-Muslims politics no longer comes as a surprise.

He added they would never talk about unemployment, inflation, migration, better education and medical facilities.

"Whenever you talk to them about development, they would start discussing Hindu-Muslim issues and try their level best to diver the attention of people from core issues," he alleged.

Poll bug bites women with top degrees

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

AMID the cacophony of the Bihar assembly polls, the state's highly educated women are entering the electoral fray with a resolve to disseminate their messages among people 'loud and clear' and win their seats.

Though these new entrants come from political background, they are not banking on caste arithmetic rather they want to ensure their victory in election by promising development, better education and health facilities.

For example, Shivani Shukla, 28, a postgraduate in law from the UK, is making her debut in poll politics from Lalganj constituency in Vaishali district. Daughter of jailed former MLA Vijay Kumar Shukla alias Munna Shukla, Shivani has been fielded by Lalu Prasad's RJD.

Shivani visited Lalu-Rabri house personally to collect party symbol and filed her nomination on October 17. She is fighting from the seat which her father had represented as an Independent in 2000. "I am thankful to Lalu Ji and Tejashwi Ji for giving this opportunity to fight election on RJD symbol," she told the media.

Shivani is pitted against incumbent BJP MLA Sanjay Singh. The seat is poised to witness an intense fight as Shivani comes from upper caste Bhumihar, which has sizeable number in the seat. Her father, who was once debarred from contesting election after being convicted in a murder case, won twice.

Lata Singh

Shivani Shukla

Pushpam Priya Choudhary

Denied ticket, aspirant tears clothes, breaks down

High-voltage drama unfolded outside the residence of Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) chief Lalu Prasad in Patna on Sunday when an aspirant broke down, tore his cloths and dropped to the ground after being denied a ticket for the Bihar polls. Madan Shah, an RJD leader, reached the residence of former CMs Lalu Prasad and Rabri Devi on Sunday morning and wished to meet the party supremo. However, security personnel did not allow him inside. A clip from the scene has since gone viral.

A native of Khanjahachak village under Lalganj block, Shivani completed her early education at Delhi Public School, RK Puram. She went on to pursue a BA LLB from Alliance University, Bengaluru, before earning an LLM from the University of Leeds, UK. She said her decision to contest election is driven by a desire to bring a 'politics of education and development' to Bihar.

Another well-educated woman debutant is Lata Singh, 36, who is in the fray from Asthawan constituency in Nalanda on the ticket of Prashant Kishor's Jan Suraaj Party. Lata, daughter of former union minister Ram Chandra Prasad Singh, once a trusted aide of CM Nitish Kumar, is a practicing lawyer in the Supreme Court.

She is contesting election for the first time. Lata's sister Lipi Singh is a Bihar cadre IPS officer. "I have decided to contest election on the request of people of Asthawan. I have been working with them for long. I can feel their pain and their sufferings as I have been with them," she said.

She said that she would focus on development, education, health and women empowerment. "Educated people should come forward and join politics. They can go into the root cause of the problems, analyse them and resolve them in a better way," she added. She will take on incumbent JD(U) MLA Jitendra Kumar. Lata comes from Nitish Kumar's caste—Kurmi and also from his home district, Nalanda.

Though Pushpam Priya Choudhary, 38, founder of The Plurals Party, unsuccessful contested previous Bihar assembly election, she is ready to accept the challenge this time again. An alumnus of London School of Economics and Political Science, Institute of Development Studies, is a native of Darbhanga district.

Pushpam's father Vinod Kumar Choudhary is a former JD(U) MLC. She can be spotted wearing black attire and a mask all the time. She said that she would remove her mask only after winning an election. She has filed her nomination papers from Darbhanga assembly seat.

She announced that her party would contest all the 243-assembly seats, half of them reserved for women.

SIT formed to hide 'Sarma's ties' with Zubeen death accused, alleges Gogoi

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

ON the one-month death anniversary of Zubeen Garg on Sunday, people across Assam paid tributes to the singer even as Congress MP Gaurav Gogoi alleged that the state government constituted the nine-member Special Investigation Team (SIT) to hide CM Himanta Biswa Sarma's proximity with Shyamkanu Mahanta and BJP's relation with Siddharth Sharma.

Mahanta was the organiser of 4th North East India Festival (NEIF) in Singapore while Sharma was Garg's manager. Both are now in judicial custody. Garg died under mysterious circumstances while swimming at a sea in Singapore. He travelled to the country to attend the NEIF. Talking to media persons on the sidelines of a public condolence ceremony in Guwahati, Gogoi alleged that the SIT probe was not heading

Month after singer's death, tributes continue

People across Assam on Sunday marked the one-month anniversary of Zubeen Garg, whose mysterious death in Singapore has sparked much speculation. At a public condolence ceremony, leaders from Opposition parties offered floral tributes to Garg's portrait. A memorial book was also released.

in the right direction.

"The SIT was formed to hide CM Sarma's relation with Shyamkanu Mahanta and BJP's relation with Siddharth Sharma, and not to find out how Garg died. Everything about Mahanta and Sharma needs to be made public. Nothing about them should be kept hidden," Gogoi, also the Assam Congress president, insisted.

Political outfit Assam Jatiya Parishad chief Lurinjyoti Gogoi categorically stated that the truth must come out. "He (Garg) raised his voice whenever there was any injustice in society. We have to build a society that he dreamt of," Gogoi said, asking everyone to refrain from doing politics on the issue.

At the public condolence ceremony, leaders from some opposition parties and people offered floral tributes to Garg's portrait. A memorial book was also released.

Eatery owner shot dead for serving non-veg

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

A 47-year-old restaurant owner in Ranchi was shot dead after a customer was allegedly served non-veg biryani instead of the vegetarian he had ordered.

According to eyewitnesses, a youth named Abhishek Kumar Nag had got veg biryani packed from Chowpatty Restaurant late on Saturday night.

On reaching home, when he found non-vegetarian biryani in the package, he called the restaurant owner Vijay Nag and argued with him. After some time, he went to the restaurant and again picked up a fight with the owner.

In a fit of rage, Abhishek took out his pistol and shot Vijay in the chest and fled. The victim was rushed to the hospital, but doctors declared him brought dead, Rural SP Praveen Pushkar said.

Diwali a month-long affair in U'khand as residents set to celebrate Mangseer

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

WHILE the rest of India concludes its Diwali celebrations on Bhai Dooj, the mountain state of Uttarakhand keeps the festive spirit—and the lamps—burning for nearly a full month. In the remote high-altitude regions, the main Diwali festival is observed a month later, during the month of 'Mangseer', creating a unique cultural tapestry that sets the Himalayan state apart.

This extended observance, known locally as Mangseer Bagwal or Budhi (Old) Diwali, stems from ancient beliefs regarding the delayed delivery of auspicious news to these inaccessible valleys.

Historian and author Jal Singh Rawat emphasised the deep roots of the tradition. "In the high mountain areas of Uttarakhand, such as Champawat, Bageshwar, Tehri, and

Jaunsar-Bawar, Diwali is celebrated a month after the main Kartik Amavasya festival, during the month of 'Mangseer'," Rawat told this newspaper.

"The belief is that in ancient times, the news of Lord Rama's victory over Ravana reached these difficult terrains much later. Consequently, they began celebrating Diwali a month afterward," he explained, linking the delay directly to the region's historical isolation.

The Mangseer Bagwal celebration is marked by vibrant community rituals, most notably the 'Bhaila'. During this event, villagers spin balls of burning wood in the air.

"The 'Bhaila' is a vibrant example of social unity and folk culture," Rawat noted. "It symbolises courage and joy, accompanied by the rhythmic sounds of 'dhol-damaun' drums and folk songs. It transcends boundaries of age and class, bringing everyone together."

Adding another layer to Uttarakhand's festive calendar is Igas Bagwal, celebrated eleven days after the main Diwali, which is often marked by a state holiday. On Igas, the celebration shifts focus to the agricultural community. Villagers gather in the fields, swirling flaming torches made of deodar or pine wood while engaging in collective singing and dancing.

20 years of one-party rule end as Bolivians vote in historic conservative presidential runoff

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • LS: Light Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	29	19	SNY	Los Angeles	32	19	SNY
Colombo	29	25	TDS	Melbourne	17	5	LC
Dhaka	33	25	TDS	Moscow	28	13	SNY
Dubai	44	28	SNY	New York	26	15	SNY
Houston	30	23	TDS	Singapore	32	25	TDS
Istanbul	33	21	SNY	Toronto	23	13	SNY
London	20	13	SNY	Washington	26	14	SNY

SUBSIDY SUSPENSION

Trump cuts funding to Colombia, calls Petro 'drug dealer'

PALM BEACH

PRESIDENT Donald Trump said Sunday he would slash US funding to Colombia because the country's leader "does nothing to stop" drug production, in what is the latest sign of friction between Washington and one of its closest allies in Latin America.

In a social media post, Trump referred to Colombian President Gustavo Petro as "an illegal drug dealer" who is "low rated and very unpopular." He warned that Petro "better close up" drug operations "or the United States will close them up for him, and it won't be done nicely."

Colombian President Gustavo Petro | AP

Trump, while at his Mar-a-Lago resort in Florida, wrote on his Truth Social platform that Petro is "strongly encouraging the massive production of drugs, in big and small fields" across Colombia, which the Republican president initially misspelled as Columbia before deleting his post and replacing it the correct spelling of the country. "Petro does nothing to stop it, despite large scale payments and subsidies from the USA that are nothing more than a long term rip off of America," Trump said.

"As of today, these payments, or any other form of payment, or subsidies, will no longer be made to Colombia," Trump said. He also said Petro had "a fresh mouth toward America."

Colombian President Gustavo Petro said Sunday his US counterpart Donald Trump is being "fooled" by advisers in announcing an end to US aid to his country. Petro wrote on the social media platform X that Trump is being "fooled by his lodges and advisers."

Earlier on Sunday, Petro accused the US government of assassination and demanded answers after the latest American strike in Caribbean waters. The US said on Saturday it was repatriating to Colombia and Ecuador two survivors from that attack, the sixth since early September. At least 29 people have been killed in strikes that the US has said are targeting alleged drug traffickers. In September, the Trump administration accused Colombia of failing to cooperate in the drug war. *AP*

Doha talks yield truce as Pakistan, Afghanistan agree to end fighting

Both countries pledge to stop supporting militant groups, respect each other's sovereignty

ISLAMABAD

AFGHANISTAN and Pakistan, embroiled in fighting that has killed dozens of people and injured hundreds, pledged on Sunday to respect a ceasefire.

The truce, mediated by Qatar and Turkey, came into effect immediately and is intended to pause hostilities. Violence has escalated between the neighbors since earlier this month, with each country saying they were responding to aggression from the other. Afghanistan denies harboring militants who carry out attacks in border areas.Pakistan is grappling with militancy that has surged since 2021, when the Taliban seized control of Afghanistan and returned to power.

The Taliban government's chief spokesman, Zabihullah Mujahid, gave a positive response to the outcome of the talks that took place in the Qatari capital, Doha, a day earlier. He said both countries had signed a bilateral agreement.

"It has been decided that neither country will undertake any hostile actions against the other, nor will they support groups carrying out attacks against Pakistan. Both sides will refrain from targeting each other's security forces, civilians or critical infrastructure." A mechanism would be established in the future, "under the mediation of intermediary countries," to review bilateral claims and ensure the effective implementation of this agreement.

Pakistani Defence Minister Khawaja Asif right and Afghan Defence Minister Mullah Muhammad Yaqoob shake hands after signing truce agreement in Doha, Qatar | AP

Later, during an online news conference, Defense Minister Muhammad Yaqoob told journalists that the Doha talks lasted 13 hours.Pakistani Defense Minister Khawaja Asif posted confirmation of the deal on X.

"Cross-border terrorism from Afghan territory will cease immediately," Asif wrote. "Both countries will respect each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity. A follow-up meeting between the delegations is scheduled to take place in Istanbul on October 25 to discuss the matters in detail."

Top officials from both countries thanked Qatar and Turkey for their role in facilitating the talks that led to the ceasefire.

The fighting between Afghanistan and Pakistan has severely disrupted people's lives. The two countries share a 2,611-kilometer (1,622-mile) long border known as the Durand Line, which Afghanistan has never recognized. They have just two main trade routes.Worsening security has forced locals to leave their homes and also left thousands of people and vehicles stranded for a week at border points. The Chaman crossing in southwest Pakistan is only open for Afghan refugees to leave as part of a nationwide crackdown on foreigners living in Pakistan illegally. *AP*

Ukrainian drones strike major Russian gas plant

KYIV

UKRAINIAN drones overnight struck a major gas processing plant in southern Russia, sparking a fire and forcing it to suspend its intake of gas from Kazakhstan, Russian and Kazakh authorities said on Sunday.

The Orenburg plant, run by state-owned gas giant Gazprom and located in a region of the same name near the Kazakh border, is part of a production and processing complex that is one of the world's largest facilities of its kind, with an annual capacity of 45 billion cubic meters. It handles gas condensate from Kazakhstan's Karachaganak field, alongside Orenburg's own oil and gas fields.

According to regional Gov. Yevgeny Solntsev, the drone strikes set fire to a workshop at the plant and damaged part of it. The Kazakh energy ministry on Sunday said, citing a notification from Gazprom, that the plant is temporarily unable to process gas originating in Kazakhstan, "due to an emergency situation following a drone attack." Ukraine's General Staff said in a statement Sunday that a "large-scale fire" erupted at the Orenburg plant, and that one of its gas processing and purification units was damaged. *AP*

Israel halts humanitarian aid, strikes Gaza after Hamas fires, tests ceasefire

TEL AVIV

AN Israeli security official said on Sunday the transfer of humanitarian aid into Gaza is halted "until further notice" after a Hamas ceasefire violation. The official spoke on condition of anonymity pending a formal announcement.

The halt in aid is occurring a little over a week since the start of the US-proposed ceasefire aimed at ending two years of war. Israel's military also has begun striking parts of Gaza after saying its troops came under fire from Hamas militants, in the first major test of the truce on Sunday.

Israel on Sunday struck targets in southern Gaza after saying its troops came under fire from Hamas militants, in the first major test of a US-brokered ceasefire meant to halt more than two years of war. Health officials said at least 15 Palestinians were killed.

A senior Egyptian official involved in the ceasefire negotiations said "round-the-clock" contacts were underway to deescalate the situation. The official spoke on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to speak to reporters. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu directed the military to take "strong action" against any ceasefire violations but didn't threaten to return to war. Israel's military said that militants fired at troops in areas of Rafah city that are Israeli-controlled according to agreed-upon ceasefire lines. No injuries were reported. The military said Israel responded with airstrikes and artillery.

People run for cover following an Israeli strike that targeted a building in the Bureij camp for Palestinian refugees in the central Gaza Strip | AFP

Hamas, which continued to accuse Israel of multiple ceasefire violations, said communication with its remaining units in Rafah had been cut off for months and "we are not responsible for any incidents occurring in those areas." Shortly before sunset, Israel's military said it had begun a series of airstrikes in southern Gaza against what it called Hamas targets.

Hamas earlier Sunday said talks with mediators on starting the ceasefire's second phase have begun. The next stages are expected to focus on disarming Hamas, Israeli withdrawal from additional areas it controls in Gaza, and future governance of the devastated territory. *AP*

Houthi rebels detain 20 UN staff, seize equipment

CAIRO

Iranian-backed Houthi rebels detained two dozen UN employees Sunday, a day after they raided another UN facility in the capital Sanaa, a UN official said.

Jean Alam, a spokesman for the UN resident coordinator for Yemen, told The Associated Press that the UN staffers were detained inside the facility in Sanaa's southwestern neighborhood of Hada.

He said those detained Sunday include five Yemenis and 15 international staff. He said the rebels released another 11 UN staffers after questioning. He said the UN was contact with the Houthis and other parties to "to resolve this serious situation as swiftly as possible, end the detention of all personnel, and restore full control over its facilities in Sanaa."

A second UN official, speaking on condition of anonymity to discuss the raid, said the rebels confiscated all communications equipment from the facility, including phones, servers and computers. The official said the detained employees belong to multiple UN agencies including the World Food Program, UNICEF and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. Dozens of people, including over 50 UN staffers, have been detained so far. A World Food Program worker died in detention earlier this year in Sadaa. *AP*

ASIA MATTERS

PROGRESS IN CAMBODIA RELATIONS

Thailand and Cambodia made progress in four-party talks with Malaysia and the US on a joint declaration to restore bilateral ties, Thai Foreign Minister Sihasak Phuangketkeow said. Key agreements include troop withdrawal, landmine clearance, and transnational crime suppression. Thailand stressed that the release of 18 Cambodian prisoners will follow clear action plans and agreed measures. The draft will be reviewed at the Thai-Cambodian Border Committee meeting, with possible endorsement at the upcoming ASEAN Summit.

SELANGOR MB VOWS BOOST FOR INDIANS

Selangor Menteri Besar Datuk Seri Amirudin Shari promised stronger support for the Indian community and education in the upcoming 2026 state budget. Recently, RM5 million was allocated to 98 Tamil schools. He emphasized safe, quality learning environments, highlighting education as key to youth employment, and extended Deepavali greetings to all.

PUBLIC NOTICE

(Loss of Document)

I, **S YATHISH**, Resident of B Hosahalli Road, Sompura Gate, Sarjapura Hobli, Anakal Taluk, Bengaluru District, Confirm resident of the above address, I, hereby declare that I have Misplaced the following Documents No.ANK-1-04181-2004-05, No.ANK1-09180-2004-05 (Ratification Deed), and No.ANK1-11233-2005-06 (A sale Deed) dated 16-10-2025 in our residence, Further Police Complaint has been lodged in Sarjapur Police Station on dated 18-10-2025 Lost Report No.771/2025. Pertaining to above mentioned documents to this effect which has been duly acknowledged. The above Public Notice is now issued. Any person having claim/in possession of the said document may represent to the under signed within **10 days** failing which it will be taken that there are no claims.

S YATHISH
Mobile No: 9980062323.

WESTERN RAILWAY
CONSTRUCTION WORK

Deputy Chief Engineer (Construction), Western Railway, Surat-395006 invites **Tender Notice No. Dy.CE(C)CCG/348-EPC. Name of work: Construction of Proposed Type II Staff Quarters- Two High Rise Towers of (G+3P+21 Floors) (240 Flats)-Buildings shall be of RCC shear wall construction with monolithic aluminum formwork (MIVAN), on EPC mode at Jogeshwari (East) in connection with Extension of Harbour Line between Goregaon to Borivali stations (MUTP 3A) NIT Value:** ₹116,75,87,433.88/- **EMD:** ₹58,38,000/- **e-Bid Closing Date: till 03.12.2025, 15.00 hrs. e-Bid Opening Date:** on 03.12.2025 at 15.30 hrs. For further details please visit our website: **www.ireps.gov.in**

0723

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Hg. Dt: 10.02.2026

BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (DRT-II)
4th Floor, BSNL Building, Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru-560 001.

O.A. No. 1811/2024

BETWEEN : BANK OF BARODA, Basavanagudi Branch, Bangalore-560 004. **...Applicant**
Vs
AND : M/s Sai Guru Industries and another ...Defendants

SUMMONS ISSUED UNDER RULE-23(viii) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL PROCEDURE RULES-1993

Defendants No. 1 to 2 :-

1. M/s Sri Sai Guru Industries Represented by its Proprietor, Mr. Sreedhar B L, S/o Late B.V. Lakshmaiah Shetty, aged about 57 years, No.47, Sundhar Industrial Compound, New Timber Yard, Mysore Road, Bangalore-560 026.

2. Mr. Sreedhar B L, S/o Late B.V. Lakshmaiah Shetty, aged about 57 years, Proprietor of M/s Sri Sai Guru Industries, Residing at No.522, 7th Cross, 7th Main Road, Hanumanthanagar, Bangalore-560 050.

SUMMONS TO DEFENDANTS 1 to 2 BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

Whereas the applicant has instituted an Application Under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Ac-1993 against the defendants / you for the recovery of a sum of Rs.30,95,340/- (Rupees Thirty Lakhs Ninety Five thousand Three Hundred and Forty only) together with current and future interest and other reliefs.

The above mentioned defendants are therefore hereby directed to appear before this Tribunal in person or through an Advocate or duly authorized agent, in support of their defence to show cause within 30 days from the date of Publication or **on 10.02.2026 at 10.30 A.M.** as to why the reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the Seal of this Tribunal on the 15th day of October 2025.

By order of the Tribunal, Registrar, Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Bangalore - 560 001.
Raghavendra Rao Manvi, Advocate,
No.94, 7th Cross, Patelappa Layout, Near KNE College, 4th Block, Doddabommasandra, Vidyaranyapura Post, Bangalore-560 097.

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BEFORE THE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II AT BANGALORE
BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001.

Original Application No. 1498/2024

BETWEEN: CANARA BANK ... APPLICANT
AND: SRI. ANAND .M ... DEFENDANT

SUMMONS ISSUED TO DEFENDANT UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993

To, **SRI. ANAND .M,** S/o Late.Sri. Munithayappa, aged about 48 years, Residing at Dasarahali Village, Kasaba Hobli, Avathi (PO), Devanahalli Taluk - 562110.

Whereas, an Application which has been filed by the Applicant above named under section 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993, praying to issue a Recovery Certificate against you to repay the Applicant Bank a sum of Rs. 41,31,407.00 (Rupees Forty One Lakh Thirty One Thousand Four Hundred and Seven Only), with respect of the Account No. 0474856007414 ,along with future interest @10% per Annum as on 30.09.2022 and in additional penal interest of 2% per Annum, from of default till the date of realization; together with interest at the contracted rate and also future interests, has been registered by this Tribunal.

You are directed to appear before the DRT II, Bangalore on **30/12/2025** at **11:00 A.M.,** in the forenoon in person or by a Pleader/Advocate duly instructed as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted.

Take Notice that in case of default, the Application will he heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this 11/09/2025

By order of the Tribunal, Registrar, Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Bangalore.

BEFORE THE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II AT BANGALORE
BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House Rajbhavan Road, Bengaluru-560001.

O.A. No. 1026/2022

BETWEEN: CANARA BANK ... APPLICANT
AND: SRI. NARASIMHA SWAMY & OTHERS ... DEFENDANTS

SUMMONS ISSUED TO DEFENDANT UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES, 1993

To, **1. SRI. NARASIMHASWAMY .N,** S/o Sri. Papa Rao N, aged about 41 years, **2. SMT. VEDA VARDINI,** W/o Sri. NarasimhaSwamy .N, aged about 40 Years, Both are Residing at: No.20, Flat No.05, 2nd Floor, 3rd Cross, 2nd Main, KR Garden, Murgesh Palya, Bengaluru-560 017.

3. SRI. MOHAN .G, S/o Sri. Gopala Rao .N, Aged about 49 Years, Residing at No.51/102, Sri Kumara Krupa, Doddabettahalli Layout, Vidyaranyapura Post, Bangalore 560 097.

Whereas, an Application which has been filed by the Applicant above named under section 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993, praying to issue a Recovery Certificate against you to repay the Applicant Bank a sum of Rs.22,66,903.97 (Rupees Twenty Two Lakh Sixty Six Thousand Nine Hundred and Three and Ninety Seven Paisa Only), together with interest at the contracted rate and also future interests, has been registered by this Tribunal.

You are directed to appear before the DRT II, Bangalore on **27/11/2025** at **11:00 A.M.,** in the forenoon in person or by a Pleader/Advocate duly instructed as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted.

Take Notice that in case of default, the Application will he heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this 08/09/2025

By order of the Tribunal, Registrar, Debts Recovery Tribunal-II, Bangalore.

BEFORE THE HON'BLE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -I, (KARNATAKA), AT BENGALURU
BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House, Rajbhavan Road, Bangalore - 560 001

O.A. No.289/2024

Between: Karnataka Bank Ltd., ...Applicant
And
Sri M. Devarajulu & 3 others ...Defendants

NOTICE ISSUED UNDER RULE 23 (VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES.

To:

1) Sri M. Devarajulu , Aged about 47 years, S/o.Peddabba Naidu.

2. Smt. Geetha M., Aged about 41 years, W/o.Devarajulu M.,

Both residing at No. E 289-89, Kakathiya Nagar, Ittamadu, Banashankari 3rd Stage, Bengaluru - 560 085.

3) M/s. SLV Constructions. No. 702, Basement Floor, 11th Main, 5th Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru - 560 041, a Partnership represented by its Partners - R. Gopinath & M. Ravi.

4) Sri M. K. Konappa, Aged about 55 years, S/o. Late Konappa, No. 10/A, 6th B Main, 11th Cross, 3rd Phase, J. P. Nagar, Bengaluru - 560 078. **....Defendants**

Whereas, the Applicant Bank above named has instituted an Application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993, against you and others, for recovery of a sum of **Rs. 46,68,278.70 Ps.** (Rupees Forty Six lakhs Sixty Eight thousand Two hundred Seventy Eight and Paise Seventy Only) only together with interest, costs and for other reliefs. All of you are directed to appear before this Hon'ble Tribunal in person or through an Advocate or duly authorized agent in support of your Defence, if any, and show cause within 30 days from the date of this publication or on or before **28-11-2025 at 10.30 A.M.** as to why the reliefs prayed for by the Applicant Bank against you, should not be granted.

Take Notice that in case of your default, the Applicant will be heard and the case determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and the Seal of this Tribunal on this 08.09.2025

Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal -I , Bangalore

BEFORE THE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -II AT BANGALORE
BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House ,Rajbhavan Road, Bangalore -560 001

O.A. No.499/2021

BETWEEN : BANK OF INDIA, J. C. Road Branch, No. 4/2, OTC Road, Off J. C. Road, Behind LIC Building, Near Sharada Talkies, Bangalore - 560 002. **...Applicant**
Versus
M/s. National Egg Centre [A Proprietor concern] & Another ...Defendants

SUMMONS ISSUED UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES 1993 BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

To, Defendant:

1. M/s. National Egg Centre [A Proprietor concern], No. 101, Mackan Bharathinagar, Shivajinagar, Bangalore - 560 001, rep by its Proprietor Mr. Syed Ilyas Ahmed,

2. Mr. Syed Ilyas Ahmed, aged about 40 years, S/o. Mr. Syed Riyaz Ahmed, R/at: No.7, 1st Floor, Venkatappa Road, Tusker Town, Shivajinagar, Bangalore - 560 051.

Under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debts due to Banks and Financial Institutions Act, 1993 against the defendants for recovery of a sum of **Rs.29,54,303.44 ps** (Rupees Twenty Nine Lakhs Fifty Four Thousand Three Hundred Three and Paise Forty Four Only) together with current and future interest and other reliefs.

The above mentioned defendants are required to appear before the Tribunal in person or through an advocate n support of their defense to show cause within 30 days or on **28.11.2025 at 10.30 a.m.** as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal, on this the **07.10.2025**

By Order of the Tribunal
Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal -II.

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Indian Bank Zonal Office Dharmapuri
1ST FLOOR, 91, DDDC BUILDING,
PENNAGARAM ROAD, DHARMAPURI
Contact : 120/2, DENKANIKOTTA ROAD (OPPOSITE GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL), HOSUR

SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6)/9(1)]*(*Retain whichever is applicable) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/ charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical/Constructive(whichever is applicable) possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Indian Bank, Hosurbranch, Secured Creditor, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **19.11.2025** for recovery of **Rs. 70,09,093/- (Rupees Seventy Lakh Nine Thousands Ninety-Three Only) (as on16.10.2025)** due to the Indian Bank, Hosur branch, Secured Creditor, from **Mr. KN Ramachandran (Borrower)** Add: D4, Chandana Apartment 82, Infantry Road, Bangalore 01 & **Mr. Narendra Hegde (Guarantor)** its address at 138, I Block III Main, RMV II Stage, Bangalore Pin-560094

The specific details of the property intended to be brought to sale through e-auction mode are enumerated below:

Detailed description of the Property	Schedule A: All that piece and parcel of residential properties bearing Old No: 82, 82/1 and 82/3, New No. 82 situated in infantry road, Bangalore 560001 in Corporation Division No. 70, the site measuring in all about 27197 sq ft and the common passages attached thereto for entry into the property and the property is bounded on with the following boundaries: East- Krishniah chetty property Cutchi Menon Union and Safina plazag Main Guard Road, West- Sivadarshan Apartment on Infantry road, Mrs Dharamraja Pvt Property & Private property facing indantry cross road, North-Private Property No. 6 to 10 on Hospital road, South-Copper Arch shopping complex & Infantry road **Schedule B (Mortgaged property)** 998 sq ft being the share of undivided right & interest in the schedule A property given here as above and the residential flat in the 2nd and mezzanine floor of the construction named as Chandana Apartments and residential flat No. D4 (Flat No. D-4 in second and mezzanine floor) measuring super built up area is 1920 sq ft consisting of two bedrooms, two covered car parking space in the basement to be numbered as D4 and private terrace area measuring about 402 sqft to be used as Terrace garden only. The flat having 1380 sqft of Mosaic flooring and 580 sq ft of Marble flooring The BBMP PID No 79-43-82/19
Encumbrances on property, if any	NIL
Reserve Price	**Rs. 2,92,20,000/- (Rupees Two Crore Ninety Thousands Two Hundred Only**
EMD Amount	**Rs. 29,22,000/- (Rupees Twenty Nine Lakh Twenty Two Thousands Only)- 10% of the Reserve price**
Bid incremental amount	**Rs. 50,000/-**
Date and time of e-auction	**Date: 19.11.2025 Time: 11:00 AM to 04:00 PM**
Property ID No.	IDIB085596901701
Account Details:	Account Number: 6163416884 Account Name: E-auction IFSC: IDIB000K052

Last Date of EMD Submission: On or before end time of E-auction

Date & Time of E-auction : 19.11.2025 (Wednesday) from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM with unlimited auto extension of 10 minutes

Note: The amount of EMD-10% of Bid amount should be paid through https://baanknet.com website and the balance amountof sale price should be paid through the Account number in the sale notice.

Bidders are advised to visit the website (https://baanknet.com) of our e auction service provider PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd. to participate in online bid. For Technical Assistance, please call 8291220220. For Registration status and EMD status, please email tosupport.baanknet@psballiance.com.

For property details and photograph of the property and auction terms and conditions,please visit: https://baanknet.com and for clarifications related to this portal, please contact PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd, Contact No.8291220220.

Bidders are advised to use Property ID Number mentioned above while searching for the property in the website with https://baanknet.com

Date :16.10.2025
Place : Hosur **Authorised Officer**

Contact Person: 1. (Authorized Officer & Branch Manager: Satish Kumar Contact: 9442625787)

₹2.17 L CR rise in m-cap of seven of the top-10 most valued companies last week, as per the exchange data

Changes in employees' PF rules explained

Rationale behind keeping 25% of accumulated sum locked is to ensure a retirement corpus, says labour ministry

PUSHPITA DEY @ New Delhi

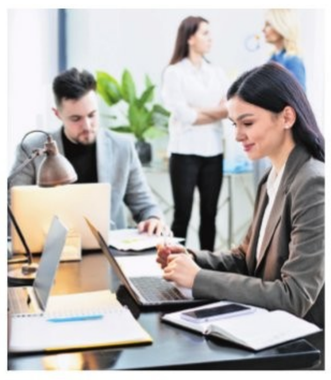
THE recent changes to the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) rules, which now mandate a 25% minimum balance and a waiting period of one year before withdrawal, have created confusion among the salaried and also drawn criticisms from the opposition parties.

However, the government released a fact sheet to simplify the regulations for the masses and clarify the confusion around the same. One of the major points of doubt was that 25% of the employees' accumulated sum had been locked and withdrawal has been restricted for a year, which was previously restricted for two months.

"Earlier, there were 13 different categories with numerous conditions under which money used to get locked. These have now been completely simplified into one uniform provision, making it much easier to withdraw money without any documentation," said labour ministry in a statement.

Similarly, the rationale behind keeping the buffer of 25% is that to ensure "high rate of interest offered by EPFO (presently 8.25% per annum), along with compounding benefits to accumulate a high value retirement corpus."

Pankaj Mathpal, MD and CEO of Optima Money, explained that this move has been deliberately taken to ensure that the salaried individuals are not tempted to withdraw the money only a couple of months of unemployment, as that will hinder their financial safety net.



"There were instances before when an individual withdrew the money within a couple of months, being unemployed, and he/she joined a new job in the third or fourth month," added Mathpal.

However, apart from unemployment, for any other emergencies like medical urgencies or marriage or education for the salaried people, the withdrawal regulations have been simplified, and also the waiting period has been minimised or removed.

The ministry clarified in its release that in almost all cases, the withdrawal limits have only been increased — whether in terms of amount or frequency. Earlier, withdrawal for marriage or house purchase was allowed only after 5–7 years; now it can be done after just one year.

Withdrawal limits for education or illness have also been made more flexible. Additionally, in any special circumstances or emergencies, the full eligible amount can be withdrawn up to twice a year without any questions asked.

Another area of criticism was the changes in the pension benefits. Under the new rule, the timeline for final pension withdrawal has gone up from two months to 36 months, and this has been particularly concerning in the case of the death of the individual.

Previously, for the death of an employee during service tenure, the family was eligible for a pension if the member had completed at least 10 years of contributory service. If the member dies before completing 10 years, the family pension is not applicable, but the nominee can claim the accumulated EPF amount.

Now, even if the contribution period is for a year, then in case of the sudden demise of the individual, the family will receive the pension, either as widow's pension or children's pension or both.

IN CONVERSATION

ASHOK CHANDRA
Managing director and chief executive, Punjab National Bank

'Deposit rate reduction by 70-80 bps will ease margin pressure in H2'

PUNJAB National Bank (PNB) reported strong second quarter numbers, with a 14% jump in net profit, robust business growth and sharp improvement in asset quality. The bank's MD and CEO, **Ashok Chandra**, spoke to **Dipak Mondal** and provided insights into the key growth drivers, and addressed key concern areas like flat net interest income (NII) and margin pressure. Excerpts:

Your net profit grew by 14%, but NII remained flat while asset quality improved significantly. What were the main drivers this quarter?
Retail, agriculture, and MSME have played an important role. We have activated our 10,200 branches — the second-largest network in the country — and business should come from there, which has now started. Retail grew by 18.1%, agriculture by 13%, and MSME by 18.6%. This gives us confidence that credit growth is on track. Our corporate loan book also showed a year-on-year growth of 7.9% and a quarter-on-quarter growth of 3%. Our sanctioned corporate loan book has increased to ₹1.78 lakh crore. All this put together, I see good loan growth happening for the bank.

NII remained flat compared to last year. What is the reason?
One important factor is the rate cut. A 100+ basis point cut impacted this quarter fully, whereas in Q1, it was only for a part of the quarter. The repricing of deposits is happening now. We had special deposit schemes at 7.25% and 7.75% that are now maturing and being repriced at 6.4% and 6.5%. We have reduced fixed deposit rates by around 70-80 basis points. The full impact of this will be seen in Q3 and Q4. We expect a 5-7 bps improvement in NIM in Q3 and a 10-15bps improvement in Q4.

How much of your deposits have been repriced so far? Will you be able to pass on the full 100 basis point rate cut to depositors?
Around 40% to 50% of deposits have been repriced. The remainder will take some time in this quarter and Q4.

Passing on the full 100 basis point cut will be a challenge. We have to be mindful of depositor preferences and market competition. We can't offer 7.25% for 400 days and then drop it to 6.25% immediately; that will take time. However, with the repricing to 6.4% and 6.5%, a 70-80 basis point reduction is happening. We have also reduced the Savings Bank (SB) interest rate, which is a significant component for us. All these impacts will be visible in the coming quarters.

The repricing of deposits is happening now. We had special deposit schemes at 7.25% and 7.75% that are now maturing and being repriced at 6.4% and 6.5%

Has reducing the savings bank interest rate impacted your CASA ratio, which is now around 37% vs 39% previously? What is your CASA guidance for FY26?
In the June quarter, we were down to 36.69%. This quarter, we have come up, with a quarter-on-quarter growth of 2.2%. We have mobilised over 18,000 crore in individual savings accounts after revamping our schemes. We are aiming for at least 38% by the end of this financial year. There are challenges, but the initiatives and digital footprint we have created are giving good results.

Your Net Interest Margin (NIM) fell by almost 30 basis points. Could you have done better?
The bank has done what was possible. We knew there were challenges, but we held on—the global NIM fell from 2.70% to 2.60%, but our domestic NIM is better at 2.72%. 49% of our portfolio is External Benchmark Linked (EBR), and we have to pass on rate cuts immediately, which we have done. The NIM pressure has now happened, and going forward, it has to go up.

Asset quality improved by about 100 basis points. What steps did you take?
We had very good recoveries this quarter—₹3,980 crore (almost ₹4,000 crore). For the last one and a half years, our quarter-on-quarter recovery has been higher than slippages. A lot of effort is going into recovery, and I am confident we will achieve the guidance of ₹16,000 crore in recovery for the year.

MONEY-WISE

DIWALI CLEANING OF YOUR PORTFOLIO

FINANCIAL ADVICE

PV SUBRAMANYAM
writes at www.subramoney.com and has authored the best seller 'Retire Rich - Invest ₹40 a day'

CLEANING an investment portfolio refers to reviewing, reorganising, and optimising investments to align with your financial goals, risk tolerance, and current market conditions. This involves rebalancing—buying or selling assets to restore your desired asset allocation—while eliminating underperformers, reducing redundancy, and minimising costs. For a diverse portfolio, the process ensures diversification, manages risk, and improves long-term performance. It's not a one-time event but should be done periodically, such as annually or when allocations drift by 5-10%. One important part of the cleaning process is to involve your family in the process.

Key steps to clean portfolio: Assess Your Current Holdings: List all assets, their values, and percentages in your portfolio. Calculate your overall asset allocation (e.g., 40% equities, 20% real estate, 15% fixed income).

Define goals, risk profile: Revisit your investment objectives (retirement, education, wealth preservation). Consider your age, income, time horizon, tax status, and risk appetite.

Evaluate performance: Compare each asset's returns against benchmarks (Nifty 50 for equities). Identify laggards, high-fee investments, or those no longer fitting your strategy. For illiquid assets like physical realty, factor in ongoing costs.

Rebalance: Sell over-allocated assets and buy under-allocated ones.

Execute changes: Prioritise tax-efficient moves like using tax-loss harvesting, gifting mutual funds to parents or children. Consult a financial advisor or tax expert, the changes in taxation is not easy to track!

Monitor and repeat: Set reminders for future reviews. Automate where possible, like through systematic investment plans (SIPs) in mutual funds.

Key Considerations - Diversification: Avoid over-concentration in one asset class or sector. For example, if real estate dominates, add REITs or InvITs for liquidity without direct ownership hassles. Gold or silver has appreciated hugely in the past few years.

Risk and Volatility: Equities, gold and realty can fluctuate; FDs offer stability but lower returns. Balance based on your tolerance—aim for a mix where no single asset exceeds 20-30%. Check with your family about their comfort level too.

Liquidity needs: Real estate is hard to sell quickly; prioritise liquid assets like equities or MFs for emergencies.

Costs and fees: Watch transaction fees, exit loads in MFs, or management fees in REITs/InvITs. Rebalancing too frequently can erode gains.

Taxes: Short-term gains (under 1-year for equities) are taxed at 20%, while FDs interest is added to income. Use tax-advantaged accounts like ELSS MF.

Inflation and market conditions: Ensure returns beat inflation (5-6% in India). In rising interest rate environments, fixed deposits may shine; in bull markets, equities.

Professional Advice: If your portfolio is complex, consult a SEBI-registered advisor to avoid biases or errors.

Sell underperforming properties (e.g., low occupancy); reinvest proceeds in liquid alternatives like REITs.

MONEY MATTERS

WHY YOU NEED TO BUILD A WAR CHEST NOW

FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

RAJAS KELKAR
(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)

THERE are warning signs all around. Despite trade wars and geopolitical tensions, the relative calm in asset prices is disturbing. Equity assets and gold prices do not rally or fall in tandem. The dramatic surge in gold prices over the past year indicates a risk in financial markets. It is not just gold. The precious metal pack is surging. Silver prices are surging, too. If you hear some prominent voices in the world of global finance, we are witnessing a lull before a storm.

Gita Gopinath, a renowned economist who recently stepped down from the International Monetary Fund, warned in an article in the Economist magazine that global equity investments in financial markets are concentrated in a few US stocks. Any sharp selloff in America could trigger a global selloff that could wipe off trillions of dollars in value.

In another statement, Jamie Dimon, who heads J P Morgan, the biggest bank in the United States, predicted a 'serious' market correction. Heargued that the US has become a less reliable partner for other countries in the world. In the latest Financial Stability Report, the International Monetary Fund warned that there was a significant increase in the chance of a 'disorderly' market correction.

Despite all those warnings, money found way into markets like Hong Kong, China, Korea and Japan. US markets continue to scale new peaks and trade at record highs. Most pundits have highlighted the risk of inflation in rich countries.

On the other side, macro-economic fundamentals in India have never been so strong. The country's finances are relatively more stable than those of most other middle-income countries. The IMF has expressed optimism by raising India's growth forecast for the year 2025-26. Corporate profitability is improving with every quarter. Businesses have strong balance sheets, and companies in the IT services sector are offering buybacks and bonus shares to investors. Despite the positive sentiment, foreign portfolio investors remain cautious. They pulled out close to $15bn from Indian equities in 2024-25. In the current fiscal year, they have pulled out just under $3bn from Indian equities. Domestic investors continue to support Indian equities with monthly inflows staying strong.

MANDAR PARDIKAR

What it means to you

It seems that India's managers of fiscal and monetary policy have managed to tame inflation. It is your biggest enemy when it comes to your money. If inflation remains under control, interest rates will stay stable or decrease. That allows businesses to borrow more money and expand their operation. However, there are a few signs that the private sector borrowing is surging for expansion. The capital expenditure needed to boost domestic consumption is led mainly by the government. Salaries in urban areas continue to languish, and there is no surge in urban consumption.

Anand Rathi Wealth is a listed company in wealth management. In the recent conference call, they told analysts that the probability of a catastrophic fall in the Indian equity markets is low, as technical market indicators (they listed several, like margin funding book size and short-sell positions) do not show signs of a sell-off. With close to Rs 30,000 crore flowing into monthly systematic investment plans, investors do not expect share prices to fall sharply in India even if there is a sell-off elsewhere. However, as an individual, there is no harm in erring on the side of caution. As a salaried person, you should continue with your systematic investments. The asset allocation can shift towards multi-asset funds rather than multi-cap funds. For those investing directly, you may want to increase cash holdings in your portfolio. Any significant market reaction could present an opportunity to buy low. If you are new to the world of investing, you may want to spend time on learning and reading up.

Zomato parent co Eternal gets ₹128 cr GST demand

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

ETERNAL Limited, the company formerly known as Zomato Limited, disclosed in a regulatory filing on Saturday that it has received a significant goods and services tax (GST) demand order totalling about ₹128.35 crore from tax authorities in Uttar Pradesh.

The order, issued by the Deputy Commissioner of State Tax in Lucknow, comprises a GST demand of ₹64.17 crore for the period April 2023 to March 2024, along with an equivalent penalty of ₹64.17 crore. The demand also includes applicable interest on the outstanding amount. As per the filing with the BSE and the NSE, the order was passed under Section 74 of the Central GST and Uttar Pradesh GST Acts. The tax authority has alleged "short payment of output tax and excess availment of input tax credit" by the company.

In its disclosure, Eternal expressed confidence in its legal position and announced its intention to fight the order. "We believe we have a strong case on merits and the company will be filing an appeal against the order before the appropriate authority," it stated. The food delivery and restaurant aggregator platform, rebranded from Zomato to Eternal earlier, assured investors that it doesn't expect financial impact from this development. This suggests the company is confident of obtaining a favourable outcome in the appellate process.

Emirates NBD to buy 60% in RBL Bank for $3 bn

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

IN one of the largest-ever FDI in Indian financial services sector, UAE-based Emirates NBD Bank and RBL Bank Limited has announced that their respective Boards have approved definitive agreements for ENBD to acquire a controlling stake in RBL Bank through a primary capital infusion of about $3 billion (₹26,850 cr).

This landmark transaction sets multiple records, establishing itself as the largest ever foreign direct investment (FDI) in the Indian financial services sector. This is also the largest ever equity fund raise in the Indian banking sector, and is first acquisition of a majority interest in a profitable Indian bank by a foreign bank.

The investment will be executed through a preferential issue of new shares, giving ENBD up to a 60% stake in RBL Bank. In accordance with Indian securities regulations, ENBD will also make a mandatory open offer to public shareholders to acquire up to a further 26% stake.

Emirates NBD is a leading banking group in the Middle-east and North Africa region with presence in 13 countries, serving over 9 million customers. It is listed on the Dubai Financial Market with a market capitalization of approximately $43 billion as of October 15, 2025. The Government of Dubai holds a 56% stake in the bank. RBL Bank, on the other hand is a listed private sector bank in India with a legacy of over 80 years. It serves over 15 million customers through a network of 564 branches and a strong digital payments ecosystem.

The partnership aims to create a powerful financial institution by combining ENBD's robust capital base and international reach with RBL Bank's deep-rooted presence and extensive distribution network across India. The massive capital infusion is expected to significantly strengthen RBL Bank's balance sheet, enhance its Tier-1 capital ratio, and provide long-term growth capital to deepen its deposit franchise and expand its branch network.

The Boards of both banks have also approved the subsequent amalgamation of ENBD's existing India branches with RBL Bank, as required by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). This will create a unified, stronger entity.

"Our investment in RBL Bank is a testament to our confidence in India's vibrant and expanding economy. This strategic alignment brings together RBL Bank's growing domestic franchise with Emirates NBD's regional reach and financial expertise, creating a unique platform for growth and innovation," said Shayne Nelson, Group CEO of Emirates NBD.

R Subramaniakumar, Managing Director & CEO of RBL Bank, added: "Welcoming ENBD as our new strategic partner is a significant milestone for the Bank. This partnership secures a robust and globally respected anchor shareholder, providing a strong capital base for our future. We are excited about the synergies this alliance will create."

PKL: Titans edge past Giants in thriller

Telugu Titans held their nerves in the final quarter to overcome Gujarat Giants 30-25 in the Pro Kabaddi League at the Thyagaraj Indoor Stadium on Sunday. Vijay Malik and Bharat Hooda shone for the Titans. In another match, U Mumba defeated Haryana Steelers 35-34. In the final match of the day, Patna Pirates beat Puneri Paltan 38-27.

India fall at death once again

With this 4-run loss, Kaur & Co have to win remaining games to have fate in their own hands

GOMESH S @Chennai

WHEN Deepti Sharma was batting with Smriti Mandhana, it seemed like India were on course to complete what would have been their highest WODI chase. India were 233/3 after 41 overs, needing 56 runs from 52 balls. Mandhana was on 88 from 93 balls while Deepti had already cruised to 35 from 38 balls.

Then, out of no where, Mandhana blinked. In an attempt to take on Linsey Smith, she found the fielder in the deep on the second ball of the 42nd over. Soon, panic set in. With a batter short, Richa Ghosh fell shortly after with Deepti following her to the dugout. It came down to 23 runs from 12 balls and India eventually fell short by four runs.

It was yet another story of taking the game deep before choking at the death and letting the contest slip through the hands. It did not matter that Harmanpreet Kaur, Mandhana and Deepti scored fifties. Nor did it matter that Deepti, at this point, is the leading wicket-taker of the tournament (she took four more wickets on Sunday to help India restrict England to 288). What mattered in the end, when Sophie Ecclestone delivered the final delivery, was that India had lost three matches on the trot and now will have to win the remaining two games to qualify without having to worry about permutations and combinations.

Coming into the contest, they knew it was a good batting surface, and that they needed a win to avoid going into a pressure situation. For England, the night couldn't have ended in a better manner as, with the win, England sealed a spot in the semifinals. For India, who face New Zealand next, it becomes a virtual quarterfinal clash, assuming that they go on to beat Bangladesh in their final league game. With three days to go for the clash in Navi Mumbai, India will have to regroup and figure out what is the best way forward.

Earlier, both Tammy Beaumont and Amy Jones, who had struggled to get going in this tournament, had no trouble negating Renuka Sharma, who came in place of Jemimah Rodrigues. There were half chances and a missed LBW, but barring that, the openers looked at ease as England got to 73 runs in the 16th over.

Both seamers could not make inroads, and neither could Sneh Rana. As a result, India were forced to introduce Deepti earlier than they usually do. And she struck in her very first over. The offie bowled full and on leg-stump, sneaking one under Beaumont's attempted sweep to castle her. Shortly after, she removed Jones but Heather Knight and Nat Sciver-Brunt were not going to give in. The former England captain was impeccable with her sweeps and reverse sweeps against the Indian spin trio with the current skipper playing second fiddle. They added 103 runs in 17.4 overs before Sciver-Brunt fell. Knight did not stop there as she cruised to her third ODI century with ease while trying to take England past 300-run mark.

However, once Knight was run out for 109 from 91, India bounced back. Once again, it was Deepti who led from the front with the ball. Her spell (4/51) in the death meant England lost five wickets for 39 runs in the last 34 balls. However, it proved to be enough for England. **Brief scores:** England: 288/8 in 50 ovs (H Knight 109, A Jones 56; D Sharma 4/51) **bt** India 284/6 in 50 ovs (S Mandhana 88, H Kaur 70, N Sciver-Brunt 2/47).

India's Smriti Mandhana reacts after losing her wicket against England | AP

B'desh face Chamari's SL

Both teams have just two points and will look to do more. A look...

REPRIEVE FROM RAIN FOR SL?

After a tiring Colombo leg where both teams faced wash outs, Sri Lanka will hope to have a full contest in Navi Mumbai. They are winless and will be looking to go back home for the final tie with one.

FOCUS ON FARGANA

The senior most batter in the side has been a trailblazer for Bangladesh team over the last 15 years. However, this World Cup has not gone well for Fargana Hoque. Bangladesh need the 32-year-old to provide stability at the top.

Bangladesh vs Sri Lanka, Navi Mumbai ● Live on Star Sports & Jio Hotstar, 3 PM

Forgettable return for Rohit, Kohli as Oz take lead in truncated clash

SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN @Chennai

AFTER weeks of build up, days of anticipation and planning last minute Diwali shopping around Saturday morning, the hype, it's fair to say, was a let down. Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma, making a return to India colours in the only format they feature these days for the national team, lasted for a combined eight runs and 22 balls in a 30-minute period where both of them displayed lots of ring rust.

It's only natural that they struggled for rhythm and timing but both of them will want better returns when the second match of the ODI series shifts to Adelaide on Thursday. The match itself, Shubman Gill's first as skipper in this format, was a forgettable affair for the tourists. The top-order couldn't come to grips with the extra bounce and the stop-start nature of the contest — the rain Gods made frequent appearances in the first innings — didn't help. After Gill & Co. limped to 136/9 in 26 overs, the hosts, propelled by Mitchell Marsh's unbeaten 46, cantered past the line with seven wickets and 29 balls to spare.

But the match was over as a contest as soon as the visitors had lost the spine of the side inside the first 15 overs. With the pitch promising pace and carry and some overheads to contend with, the hosts had no hesitation in putting India in.

Rohit Sharma (top) and Virat Kohli scored a combined of eight runs| PTI

BRIEF SCORES: India 136/9 in 26 ovs (Axar 31, Rahul 38, Hazlewood 2/20, Owen 2/20, Kuhnemann 2/26) **lost to** Australia 131/3 in 21.1 ovs (Marsh 46 n.o, Philippe 37) via DLS

Late career Sharma has eschewed his tendency to building an innings. Instead, he's all about using the powerplay as a friend. A leaner looking version of the former India captain made his intentions clear but connected thin air to complete the first Mitchell Starc over.

When it comes off, it gives India and its plethora of all-rounders in the middle-order the perfect launchpad. Over the last few years, it's more or less come off. It's what made India a fearsome team in this format, with two finals and one ICC title a testament to it. On days like Sunday, though, it can expose those tactics. After a couple of nothing shots, Josh Hazlewood got one to lift from a hard length. Sharma's nothing prod took the outside edge and flew to second slip.

A few overs later, Kohli joined him in the pavilion in predictable circumstances. The No. 3, whose last match for India came in the final of the Champions Trophy in early March, is known to have the need to feel bat and bowl in the early stages. With the ball moving, Starc kept it on a string in that place outside off stump. Kohli played out a maiden over. One full Hazlewood over later, Starc offered the bait of a full delivery on a sixth stump line. The batter couldn't resist and Cooper Connolly completed a smart diving catch. Both Gill and Shreyas Iyer departed soon after and the innings got some oxygen back thanks to a few lusty blows from the blade of Nitish Reddy. But it was never going to be enough in a rain-curtailed match.

Does this mean Sharma and Kohli only have two matches Down Under to show that they can valuable long-term assets? It's likely they may be given multiple series to show they are still capable of producing what they once did but there's an increasing feeling that every match is a referendum of their place in the World Cup squad for 2027.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Coaching bringing out different emotions in Chen

ANMOL GURUNG @Guwahati

THE adrenaline rush that comes with success, the heart-wrenching feeling that fills the mind after a loss, Chen Long, considered to be one of the badminton GOATs, experienced different shades of emotions here at the BWF World Junior Championships.

Known to be stoic during his playing career, Chen, who was here as one of the coaches of the China junior badminton team, had endured some testing moments in his role, which he had taken up soon after his playing career in 2023. Dissecting the matches from coaches' designated chairs, Saturday was one such instance when the celebrated Chen was subjected to almost two hours of absolute rollercoaster.

In what was a mixed day for China in the men's singles discipline, Li Zhi Hang, lost a gruelling battle that lasted an hour while Liu Yang Ming Yu brought some cheers to the team camp by battling his way into the final. It was certainly a tough watch for the former Olympic champion. "It's more stressful as a coach for now. After watching both the semifinals, it's stressful for both the mind and the heart. Even though I'm not playing at the moment, I'm feeling the same level of stress," Chen, with the help of a translator, said after Saturday's matches. "As a player, I needed to have a poker face to make my opponent afraid of me and I could perform better and I could focus better on the court. But as a coach, I'm trying to make the players on court feel better. If they win a point, I'll cheer them up. Even if they lose, I'll smile and tell them 'it's okay, continue playing'," the 36-year-old added.

Chen Long | BADMINTON PHOTO

Born in Shashi City, Hubei Province, the former World No 1 was well known for his endurance and his watertight defence. Still adapting to life in his new role, he explained his challenges. "As a coach, my challenge has been figuring out how I can use all the years of experience of my playing career and help the youngsters do better on the court and help them win matches."

Overall his message to his wards is simple. "I tell them to focus on every point, every shuttle and every rally and not pay too much attention to the results. It's okay to lose or win, just pay more attention to every rally and focus on the match."

Just a week or so ago, China had won the Suhandinata Cup, the mixed team event of the World Junior Championships. "I'm satisfied with all the arrangements here as we won the mixed team event at last. It's a great thing." The currency that gives him great pleasure is wins for his wards.

"If a player wins with the help of my coaching inputs, I feel very pleased. In the future, I would like to do better with the junior team and then see how it goes. I'll take it step by step." With his champion mentality, Chinese shuttlers are in safe hands.

HISTORIC FEAT

TANVI SECURES SILVER

ANMOL GURUNG @Guwahati

IT was a case of so close, yet so far for promising shuttler Tanvi Sharma.

The teenage sensation was throwing the kitchen sink, employing every trick in her playbook in a bid to keep her dreams of becoming a junior world champion alive at the National Centre of Excellence (NCE), here on Sunday. The final-day crowd, which was the biggest throughout the campaign, were unison in their cheers and were offering her moral support throughout the match.

Feint shots, net shots, her preferred smashes — both forehand and down the line. Heck, she even employed the rare short service, something she had not used a single time coming into the final. But all that was to no avail as Anyapat Phichitpreechasak, her opposite number in the women's singles final of the BWF World Junior Championships, was just too powerful.

The Hoshiapur girl, who was looking to emulate Saina Nehwal, was second-best for large parts of the contest as her Thai opponent had answers for everything that was thrown at her. The nimble-footed Thai shuttler was especially dominant in front of the net, producing inch-perfect angled returns that had the Indian in a spot of bother on several occasions.

When Tanvi, who later admitted being a bit nervous, tried to attack her back court, Anyapat was effective in equal measure with her flat returns and good follow-ups. And her skills also matched her endurance as she was covering all lengths of the court like a seasoned operator. After conceding the opening game, Tanvi did display heart, showing signs of a potential fightback. But just when she had manufactured a decent lead, she was guilty of untimely errors to let Anyapat off the hook. Tanvi was guilty of squandering a commanding position on several occasions. With the home crowd who had turned up in large numbers rooting for her, Tanvi continued to fight, fetching a few points in the process. But it was too little, too late.

5

Tanvi is the fifth Indian to bag a silver medal in the competition after Aparna Popat (1996), Saina Nehwal (2006), Siril Verma (2015) and Sankar Muthuswamy (2022).

The Indian lost 7-15, 12-15 in 28 minutes. Tanvi, while reflecting on the match, rued her unforced errors and also highlighted her opponent's strong game sense. "From the start itself I was making many unforced errors but in the second game, I had a 8-5 lead and I had my confidence back. But again I made some unforced errors, but then my coach told me to 'play everything'. I tried to play rallies but it didn't work," Tanvi said.

"She was reading the game very well today (Sunday). I was hitting many deceptions but she knew where I was hitting," she added.

Nevertheless, the silver medal is a welcome result for Tanvi, who's expected to build on this experience and become a more-rounded player in the near future. "I'm happy that I won a silver medal at my home ground. It means a lot to me."

After taking lessons from this campaign, she will be determined to change the colour of the medal in the next final that she features in.

Result: World junior champs

XD: Lee Hyeong Woo/Cheon Hye In (KOR)
WD: Tan Ke Xuan/Wei Yue Yue (CHN)
WS: Anyapat Phichitpreechasak (THA)
MS: Liu Yang Ming Yu (CHN)
MD: Chen Jun Ting/Liu Jun Rong (CHN)

Olympian Panwar leads India's 10-medal show at Asian C'ships

AGENCIES @Hai Phong (Vietnam)

OLYMPIAN Balraj Panwar spearheaded India's impressive show at the 2025 Asian Rowing Championships, as the country bagged 10 medals including three gold and five silver, marking one of their strongest performances in recent years.

Paris Olympian Panwar produced a commanding show to win the gold in the men's single scull (M1X) event. India's other gold medals came through the lightweight men's double scull (LM2X) pair of Lakshay and Ajay Tyagi, who combined superb rhythm and endurance to dominate their final, and in the men's quadruple scull (M4X), where the quartet of Kulwinder Singh, Navdeep Singh, Satnam Singh and Jakar Khan rowed with perfect coordination to clinch the top spot.

The lightweight men's four (LM4-) team of Sannee Kumar, Iqbal Singh, Babu Lal Yadav and Yogesh Kumar also finished second after a closely fought final.

The bronze medals came in the lightweight men's pair (LM2-), where Nitin Deol and Parvinder Singh claimED third place, and in the women's eight (W8+), the crew led by Gurbani Kaur combined effectively to secure a podium finish.

FOOTBALL ROUND-UP

Man United stun Liverpool, Spurs lose at home

AGENCIES @London

LIVERPOOL slumped to a fourth consecutive defeat for the first time in 11 years as Manchester United won 2-1 on Sunday to end their near decade-long wait for victory at Anfield. Harry Maguire's 84th minute header secured back-to-back Premier League wins for the first time in Ruben Amorim's tenure as United boss.

Twelve minutes from time, Cody Gakpo had cancelled out Bryan Mbeumo's opener after just 61 seconds. Defeat leaves Liverpool four points adrift of Arsenal at the top of the table and Arne Slot still searching for answers in how to get the right blend after splashing out nearly £450 million ($604 million) on new players in the transfer market. United close to within two points of their historic rivals and up to ninth in the table to ease the pressure on Amorim after his biggest win in nearly a year in charge.

After three consecutive defeats for the first time in Slot's reign, Liverpool could barely have imagined a worse start. Mbeumo sped past Virgil van Dijk with ease before firing past Giorgi Mamardashvili from Amad Diallo's pass after barely a minute.

Liverpool's wealth of attacking talent finally broke the door down when Federico Chiesa, who had replaced Isak moments earlier, drilled in a low cross that Gakpo converted from point blank range. Yet, their defensive frailties meant parity only lasted six minutes as Maguire was left unmarked to head in Fernandes's looping cross.

Harry Maguire (third from R) scores the winner against Liverpool on Sunday | AP

Meanwhile, Aston Villa have responded to their longest winless start to a season since 1964 with extending their winning run to five successive victories, after beating Tottenham Hotspur. As a result, Villa extend their unbeaten streak to eight matches.

In the match, Tottenham needed just five minutes to take the lead. But Rogers hauled Villa level in spectacular fashion after 37 minutes.

Then, in the 77th minute, Matty Cash's cross-field pass found Lucas Digne and he teed up Buendia, who whipped a fine finish into the bottom corner from the edge of the area

La Liga: Atletico grab win

MADRID: Atletico continued a run of six matches unbeaten with a hard-fought victory over Osasuna to go fourth place, ahead of Real Betis on goal difference.

New signing Almada netted his first goal for the club after 69 minutes.

EXPRESS READ

Ningbo Open: Rybakina defeats Alexandrova in final

NINGBO (CHINA): Elena Rybakina stormed back from a set down to beat Ekaterina Alexandrova 3-6, 6-0, 6-2 in the Ningbo Open final on Sunday. The third-seeded Rybakina started slowly, falling behind to her Russian opponent 4-1 in the opener. She bounced back in the second and then dominated with a strong service game that included 11 aces.

Golf: Fleetwood wins inaugural India C'ship

NEW DELHI: England's Tommy Fleetwood was an epitome of calm and composure as he fired a brilliant seven-under 65 to clinch the inaugural DP World India Championship title with a two-stroke win over Japan's Keita Nakajima on Sunday. Among Indians, Shiv Kapur was the best perfomer, firing five birdies and a bogey to finish 32nd at nine-under.

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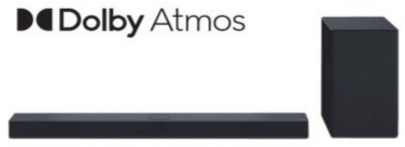

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DAY'S DIARY

Indo-China war

In 1962, China launched attacks against India in Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh, resulting in a month-long conflict

A CALCULATIVE MOVE

China chose this day to invade India as it was right in the middle of the Cuban Missile Crisis. Since global attention was diverted, India was left diplomatically and militarily isolated

TERRITORIAL DISPUTE

China refused to accept the McMahon Line and their territorial claims became more assertive since 1958, leading to the invasion

CEASEFIRE

Following a unilateral ceasefire on November 19, 1962, China withdrew from Arunachal Pradesh while maintaining control over parts of Aksai Chin

Here's look at happenings in the city

PG 2

Bengalureans carefully shop for the perfect deepas

Lanterns light up Gandhi Bazaar

FEEL THE SPARK

Decked up in deepas and strings of light, the city was dressed in its festive best as Bengalureans prepared to celebrate Deepavali over the long weekend

Actor Meghana Gaonkar (left), influencer Stuti Gupta (centre) and actor Brinda Acharya (far right)share a glimpse into their festive preperations

Influencer Navya NC with her sister

AS Deepavali approached, Bengaluru lit up in a spectacle of colours over the weekend. Popular spots like Commercial Street, MG Road and Gandhi Bazaar saw flocks of customers getting their last-minute festive shopping done with bags full of deepas, streamers, flowers, and strings of light. Homes, too, started to come alive with carefully lit flames and intricately drawn rangolis. Men, women, and children alike donned their festive best to celebrate the triumph of good over evil. Bengaluru truly felt the spark this festival of lights.

PICS: VINOD KUMAR T, SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA, NAGARAJA GADEKAL & KEVIN NASHON

A chef prepares a cracker of a dessert

An array of diyas and festive sweets on display

MG Road and Garuda Mall lit up for the festive week

Hot Spot

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO GETAWAYS AROUND THE CITY

KODAGU

IDEAL TIME TO VISIT
All year

DISTANCE FROM B'LURU
252 km from B'luru; around a 5 hour drive

GETTING THERE
Approximately ₹4,130 by cab, one way

TIMINGS
Varies with location

HIGHLIGHTS

Abbey falls, Raja's Seat, and Mandalpatti Peak offer a serene escape into nature's lap

SHORT AND SWEET

PG 3

Tunes of Confessions

Jawan actor and Grammy nominated singer-songwriter Sanjeeta Bhattacharya recently performed in Bengaluru as part of her 'Dear Diary' Tour, a 10-city musical journey

RESHMA SYED

HER breathy voice forming words in Spanish, Portuguese and English to Hindi and Bengali, 30-year-old singer-songwriter **Sanjeeta Bhattacharya** finds beauty in melodies from nearby and far off places. It is these songs with flavours from around the world that the Grammy-nominated singer recently brought to Bengaluru with a concert at BIRA Taproom. "My music has influences from folk music of the world, like Bengali, Balkan or even Spanish folk music. I approach writing these tunes by staying true to the nuances of those languages. I feel Spanish and Bangla, particularly, are very melodic so I have tried my best to keep that element intact in my composition," she explains

Currently on a 10-city tour called 'Dear Diary', her concerts have attempted to create an experience as intimate and confessional as the name suggests. She says, "The idea was to make it a very intimate, cosy setting in each city, where I get to interact with the audience and tell them the story behind each song, the reasons I wrote it, and how I felt while writing it," she says.

She adds, "I have seen people cry and come to me confessing things of their own, because the storytelling aspect has been me baring my soul to absolute strangers. The strangers themselves have been very gracious with reciprocating that vulnerability with me and its been absolutely beautiful to experience."

Apart from her music career, Bhattacharya is an actor too, having appeared in OTT series *Feels Like Ishq* and *The Broken News*, as well as the Shah Rukh Khan-starrer *Jawan*, for which she also contributed to the soundtrack. She explains that her choices have been motivated by the desire to learn from experienced artistes.

"These acting stints came very early in my acting career and since I haven't studied acting, each role I take up is like going to a classroom," she says, adding, "I have made sure that there are people I can learn from. For *Jawan* it was Atlee Kumar, Nayanthara, Shah Rukh Khan and Deepika Padukone."

My music has influences from folk music of the world, like Bengali, Balkan or even Spanish folk music. I approach writing these tunes by staying true to the nuances of those languages

Sanjeeta Bhattacharya, singer

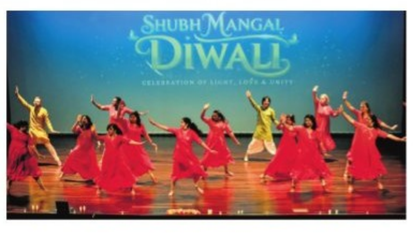
CITY READ

Music festival to collect e-waste to transform into art

Echoes of Earth, a green music festival, in collaboration with Hasiru Dala Innovations and SOCIAL, is running a city-wide E-waste collection drive till November 21 to promote responsible waste management. Interested parties can drop off small e-waste items like laptops, mobiles, printers, chargers, and hair dryers at SOCIAL outlets in Hebbal, Church Street, Koramangala, and Indiranagar. Collected waste will be repurposed into large-scale art installations for the upcoming festival. Contributors will receive special rewards according to the quantity of e-waste donated – a free festival pass for over 15 kg of e-waste, a single-day pass for over 10 kg, and a discounted pass for over 7 kg. For more information, visit echoesofearth.com

Int'l school celebrates multi-cultural Deepavali

The Canadian International School (CIS) celebrated Deepavali on October 19 bringing together students, teachers, and parents to honour tradition and diversity through cultural performances. The event, held on campus, reflected CIS' multi-cultural spirit, with participants from over 40 nationalities showcasing interpretations of Deepavali. The celebration began with a diya-lighting ceremony with highlights including a performance by Senior Kindergarteners, who retold the story of Deepavali – the victory of light over darkness.



XPRESS FOCUS

LIGHTING HER OWN PATH

The Inspiring Journey of Jayashree R. Karkera

From Mangalore's quiet streets to pan-India recognition, this social influencer, artist, and radio voice is scripting her own legacy.

In the coastal town of Mangaluru, known for its rich cultural heritage and warm community, a young girl was born into a family that valued hard work, perseverance, and kindness. Today, Jayashree R. Karkera is more than just a name - she's a social influencer, radio jockey, makeover artist, and now a scriptwriter for a pan-India film.

"I was born in Mangaluru, a town in the south of Karnataka known for its cultural richness. But it was an event years later that truly shaped who I would become," Jayashree shares.

From Quiet Curiosity to Creative Fire

A naturally curious child, Jayashree recalls always exploring beyond boundaries. Life, she says, was a roller coaster of experiences before she found her purpose. "I was a child with so much curiosity and eager to learn. Life was a blend of heartbreaks, disappointments, and demotivation - but those lessons made me stronger," she says.

In a deeply personal reflection, she adds, "Before I discovered who I was, I learned everything I wasn't." That self-awareness, she says, became the foundation of her evolving journey.

When Dreams Refuse to Sleep

After graduation, Jayashree began her professional life as a customer relations executive at a leading automobile company in Bangalore. But the job, while steady, did not ignite her passion. "Job satisfaction was below the graph level, but I had no choice. Financial constraints meant limited options. I was a shy kid, and that hesitation cost me many opportunities early on," she admits.

Still, her dreams were louder than her fears. "I could not sleep peacefully; my dreams kept me awake. I dreamed of being a teacher, a painter, a writer, a filmmaker... even a radio jockey. These weren't just professions - they were colours in my imagination," she mentions.

Brushstrokes and Microphones

Her journey into the beauty industry marked a significant chapter. For seven years, she worked as a makeover artist, learning the finer points of hairstyling, skincare, and personal grooming. "This field helped me groom my personality inside out. I built confidence, overcame personal flaws, and learned to carry myself with grace," says Jayashree.

This growth gave her the confidence to pursue her long-standing interest in voice and storytelling. Today, she is a radio jockey at a reputed online station based in Jaipur.

"Being a South Indian never became a hurdle," she emphasises. "Learning languages helped me adapt. Public speaking, content writing, and being a social influencer -- these were conscious choices I made to grow."

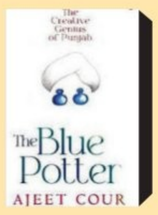
From Voice to Script

The next chapter in her life is perhaps the most ambitious yet. Jayashree has recently written dialogues for an upcoming Pan-India movie under Rogers Production, marking her debut as a film writer. "This was a dream come true. I'm incredibly grateful to Dr. Roger for trusting me with this opportunity," she says with pride. She acknowledges the challenges faced by women in screenwriting: "Female scriptwriters often face bias, limited access to networks, and are boxed into 'women-centric' genres. I am lucky to have broken into this space and hope to inspire more women to follow suit."

Still Walking, Still Dreaming

For Jayashree, the journey is far from over. "The path to success is steep, but every step strengthens you. I am not a satisfied soul - I am always longing for more, for better, for deeper purpose," she says.

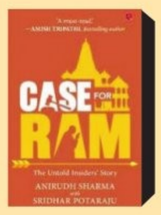
BOOK NOOK



The Blue Potter: The Creative Genius of Punjab

By Ajeet Cour

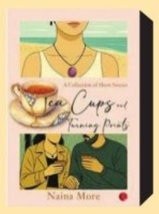
A sparkling collection of seventeen character sketches, the book is a moving and deeply personal tribute to some of Punjab's most iconic personalities who have shaped India's social, political, cultural, and literary soul.



Case for Ram: The Untold Insiders' Story

By Anirudh Sharma and Sridhar Potaraju

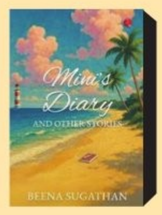
Chronicling the Ram Janmabhoomi legal battle in the Supreme Court, this behind-the-scenes account reveals how Lord Ram came to be represented as a legal person.



Tea Cups and Turning Points: A Collection of Short Stories

By Naina More

A collection of short stories that swirl with unspoken truths, quiet rebellions, and the aching beauty of quotidian lives.



Mini's Diary and Other Stories

By Beena Sugathan

Narratives that explore a variety of themes – from the innocent world of children to the struggles of parents, the elderly, and the overlooked.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, COLOUR

Students of Anjali School of Dance and Music perform during Kalarpan 7, an annual student showcase at ADA Rangamandira, JC Road | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

QUICKFIX

BOONDI CHAAT

INGREDIENTS

- **Masala boondi:** 1 cup
- **Curd (whisked):** 2 tbsps
- **Chopped onion & tomato mix:** 1/2 cup
- **Chaat masala:** 1 tbsp
- **Green chilli:** 1 (if needed)
- **Chopped coriander leaves:** 2 tbsps

METHOD

- Add masala boondi to a bowl and combine chopped onion and tomato with it.
- Pour in the whisked curd and toss lightly. Sprinkle chaat masala and mix well.
- Top with coriander leaves and serve immediately for a crunchy, tangy bite.

Contributed by **Reshma Syed,** Bengaluru

ASK AN XPERT

DR VIVEK ARORA

The expert is a senior veterinarian, Crown Vet, Delhi

My half-stray (3) gets into a scrap with community dogs and returns wounded often. I don't think a Victorian collar will work to make her stop licking Betadine as she will go crazy if forced into it. How harmful is it if she keeps licking Betadine? Is the alternative to let the wound heal by itself?

Occasional licking of Betadine (povidone-iodine) is usually not toxic, but repeated ingestion can cause irritation or, over time, affect the thyroid or digestive system. More importantly, constant licking can slow healing and increase the risk of infection. Letting the wound heal on its own isn't ideal, especially if injuries are frequent. If she won't tolerate a traditional collar, try a soft recovery collar or a pet-safe onesie to cover the area. Keeping her indoors while she heals is also important. Since she's getting injured often, a veterinarian should examine her and discuss long-term care, possibly including spaying or rehoming.

FITBIT

A QUICK 30-MINUTE WORKOUT DURING FESTIVE SEASON

The festive season is all about celebration, family time, and plenty of food! But that doesn't mean your fitness routine has to go on a complete holiday. With just 30 minutes, you can squeeze in an effective full-body workout that boosts your energy, improves your mood and keeps those extra holiday calories in check.

WARM UP

Warming up preps your body for exercise, increases blood flow, and reduces the risk of injury. Keep it light and dynamic. Complete 2 rounds, each for a span of 30 seconds, of the following exercises:

- Deep squat dynamic hamstring stretch
- Bird dog
- Bent over IYT raises
- High knee

MAIN WORKOUT

Complete a maximum number of reps for 40 seconds and take 20 seconds of break for 4 rounds.

1.5 Squat Pulses:

- Lower into a full squat, rise halfway, pulse back down, then come all the way up. This marks one rep.
- **Targets:** Quads, glutes, and core

Wide Grip Push-Ups:

- Hands wider than shoulder-width; keep elbows at 45º. Modify on knees or incline for beginners.
- **Targets:** Chest, shoulders, and arms

Reverse Plank Marches:

- Sit, lift hips into reverse plank, alternate lifting feet while keeping hips steady.
- **Targets:** Core, glutes, and shoulders

T-Jacks:

- Jumping jack variation: arms go straight out to the sides in a 'T' rather than overhead.
- **Targets:** Cardio, shoulders, and coordination

Glute Bridge Walkouts:

- Start in a glute bridge, then slowly walk your feet away from your body in small steps and back in.Keep hips lifted and core engaged throughout.
- **Targets:** Glutes, hamstrings, and core
- **Tip:** Go slow and controlled to feel the burn

COOL DOWN & STRETCH (5 MINUTES)

Wrap it up with some stretching to relax your muscles and help recovery.

- Standing forward fold – 1 minute
- Quad stretch (30s each leg) – 1 minute
- Seated hamstring stretch – 1 minute
- Shoulder stretch (30s each arm) – 1 minute

By Dhruva Sivakumar, fitness expert, cult – a fitness and wellness platform

WHAT WHEN WHY WHERE

Musical Sitar

Enjoy an evening filled with soulful music and captivating performances by **Chirag Katti**. The event showcases a blend of traditional and contemporary sounds, creating an experience for all attendees.

WHEN: October 20, 6am
WHERE: Essensai067 Amphitheatre, Whitefield
DETAILS: district.in

Sustainable Elegance

Get along with the festive spirit through thoughtful, sustainable choices. Explore the handcrafted pieces that bring nature into your home. Deck your home with string lights, tea-light holders & lanterns, hangings, torans, streamers and sal leaf tableware. Priced at ₹399 onwards.

WHEN: October 24, 10am onwards
WHERE: www.greenkraft.co.in
CALL: 91641 64788

Mithai Flavours

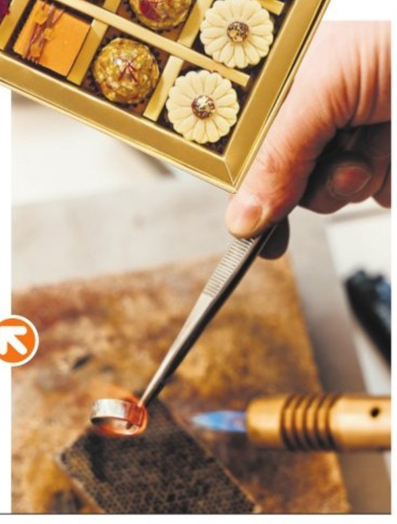
Choose from 10 exquisitely curated hampers featuring everything from artisanal chocolate bars, chocolate walnut tart, bon bons, to cufflinks, silver spoons, red wine and more. Ranging from ₹999 to ₹16,999, there's something for everyone's gifting needs.

WHEN: Till October 31
WHERE: Bengaluru Marriott Hotel, Whitefield **CALL:** 9513138662

Artisan Ring

Learn the art of making your own cherished brass ring in this hands-on workshop. Participants get to explore metalworking techniques and unleash their creativity.

WHEN: October 20, 11.30am
WHERE: Know How, Jayanagar
DETAILS: highape.com



Fun Arena

Enjoy a fun-filled day of games, activities, and celebration for all ages. The event combines active play with a lively party atmosphere, perfect for families and friends. Participants can engage in sports, interactive games, and more throughout the venue.

WHEN: October 20, 11am
WHERE: Play and Party, Hennur
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Monday Moods

Kick off the week with energetic music and vibes with DJ Sulectro. This Bollywood-themed night brings together people who love to dance and unwind. The event offers delicious food and beverages.

WHEN: October 20, 8pm onwards
WHERE: No Limmits Lounge And Club, Brigade Road
DETAILS: highape.com

SOULFUL POETRY

Join an evening of poetry and artistic expression at Urban Solace with poet Padmini. She finbds herself at life's meridian, a moment of pause, reflection, and quiet reckoning. Through poems, she looks back – not with regret, but with curiosity and care.

WHEN: October 21, 7.30pm **WHERE:** Urban Solace, Ulsoor **CALL:** 98450 13055

EXPRESS CONNECT

HAVE A RECIPE OR ART WORK TO SHARE, OR A QUESTION TO ASK?

@xpresstn
cityexpresschn@gmail.com
@newindianexpress

ARTCORNER

DIVINITY ON CANVAS

'RG Vishnu – II' is Ramesh Gorjala's artistic inspiration of gods and goddesses using the Kalamkari technique

Bottle Gourd Sheera by Kumari G

INGREDIENTS

Bottle gourd: 750 g

Full-fat milk: 1.5 l

Mixed dry fruits (almonds, cashews, raisins) :1/3 cup

Ghee: $2\ ^{1/3}$ tbsp

Sugar: $1\ ^{1/3}$ to $1\ ^{1/2}$ cups

Cardamom powder: a pinch

Green food colour (optional): 1/8 tsp

METHOD

Wash, peel, and grate the bottle gourd and squeeze out excess water from it. Heat two tablespoon of ghee in a large pan. Add almonds, cashews, and raisins. Fry until golden and remove from the pan. In the same pan, add the remaining ghee. Add the grated bottle gourd and roast until the raw smell goes away, stirring occasionally. Pour 1.5 litres of full-fat milk into the pan with the gourd. Mix well and cook on medium heat, stirring frequently. Let it cook until the milk thickens and reduces, and the gourd blends well. Add the sugar ($1\ ^{1/3}$ to $1\ ^{1/2}$ cups depending on preferred sweetness). Mix and cook again, stirring until the halwa thickens further. Add a pinch of cardamom powder. Optionally, add a drop of green food colour for appearance and mix well. When the mixture turns into halwa consistency and leaves the sides of the pan, add the fried dry fruits and blend into the halwa. Turn off the heat. Serve the hot bottlegourd halwa in bowls, and garnish with more dry fruits if desired.

SHORT AND SWEET

This Deepavali, skip the kitchen marathon with these deliciously quick and easy sweets that can be made with minimal fuss

NIDHARSHANA RAJU, RAKSHITHA PRIYA G

WHEN plates of homemade sweets would be arrayed on the table this Deepavali, keep your diet plan aside. While the aroma of ghee, the wafting scents of roasted nuts, and sizzling sounds of sweet syrup would fill the nook and corners of your home, just indulge in it, mindfully!

Here are quick sweet recipes, curated with blobs of love and drizzle of creativity from the kitchens of food lovers.

Kavuni Arisi Halwa by A Thenmozhi

INGREDIENTS

Kavuni arisi (Black rice): 1 cup

Water: 8 cups | **Sugar**: 1 cup
Grated coconut: 1/2 cup | **Ghee**: 2 tsp

METHOD

Soak one cup of kavuni arisi in two cups of water, overnight (around 8 hours). In the morning, drain the soaked water and transfer the rice to a pressure cooker. Add three cups of water (1:3 ratio) and cook for about seven whistles. Once the pressure releases, check if the rice is soft when pressed. If not fully cooked, pressure cook for three more whistles. Transfer the cooked kavuni arisi to a bowl. Add sugar in a 1:1 ratio — start with 3/4 cup and adjust sweetness with the remaining 1/4 cup if needed. Add 1/2 cup grated coconut and mix well. Finally, add two teaspoons of ghee and mix thoroughly. Your flavourful Kavuni Arisi Halwa is ready to serve.

Sugar-Coated Cashew by Lavanya G

INGREDIENTS

Full cashew: 1 cup

Sugar: 1 cup

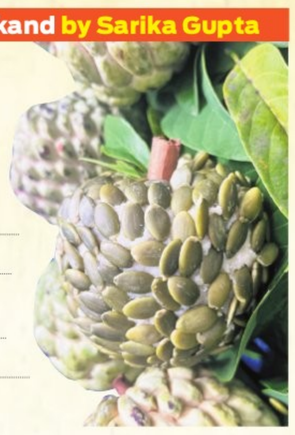
Rice flour: 2 tsp

Water (as required)

METHOD

Take a cup of full cashews and dry roast in a pan with rice flour for five minutes in low flame and keep it aside. Then take sugar in the same cup and add little water. Stir it on a medium flame till the syrup turns to a string consistency. Lower the flame and add the roasted cashew to the sugar syrup with a stir and switch off the flame. The sugar syrup will get coated to cashews. Leave it for five minutes. Separate the sugar syrup coated cashews one by one. Now your cashew sweet is ready to serve.

Sitaphal Kalakand by Sarika Gupta



INGREDIENTS

Full-fat-milk: 1.5 l

Lime juice: 2 tbsp

Water: 2 tbsp

Sugar: 5 tbsp

Cardamom: 5 pods

Custard apple: 2, large

Almonds: 10

Pistachios: 10

METHOD

Line a strainer with a clean cheese cloth. Place the strainer on a pot. Line a 7*7 inch pan with parchment paper. Grease the pan, place the paper and grease again. Peel off the skin and lightly pound the cardamom seeds in a mortar and pestle. Sliver almonds and pistachios thinly. To make chena (fresh paneer) Boil 1 litre of milk in a saucepan. Let it cool slightly. Mix lime juice and water. Slowly add the diluted lemon juice to the milk. Keep mixing with a ladle. Stop once the milk has curdled. Strain in the cheesecloth-lined strainer. Rinse the chena with fresh water. Strain well. Grate the chena. Grate 250 grams of freshly purchased paneer. For custard apple pulp, take soft and ripe fruits. Tear them apart and remove the pulp in a tall container. Beat the pulp with an electric whisk. Pick up the seeds from the the pulp and set aside. Boil 500 ml of milk in a wide non-stick pan. Keep stirring to reduce it to less than half. Add the grated paneer and sugar and cook till very thick and crumbly. Add custard apple pulp and mix. Cook briefly until it thickens, add cardamom seeds and then pour into the prepared pan. Garnish with the slivered nuts. Press them into the kalakand. Let it cool completely. Cover the pan with cling film and refrigerate for a couple of hours. Cut into squares and serve cold. For Aam Kalakand, the same recipe can be made with chunky mango pulp. Cook the pulp (on low heat) before adding it to the milk solids and cook again.

Seed & Nut Date Energy Balls by Prakriti Goenka

INGREDIENTS

Soft dates (Medjool preferred, or soaked regular dates, pitted): 1 cup

Mixed nuts (almond, cashew, walnut, and pistachio): 1/2 cup

Mixed seeds (chia, flax, sunflower, pumpkin, and sesame): 1/4 cup

Roasted peanuts (unsalted, lightly crushed or whole): 1/8 cup

Cinnamon powder (optional for flavour):1/2 tsp

Vanilla extract (optional): 1 tsp

Ghee (for cooking the dates):1-2 tsp

Salt: a pinch

METHOD

Add the mixed nuts, peanuts, and seeds together. Dry roast for 3-5 minutes, until they turn golden and aromatic. Turn off the heat and let them cool. Soak dates in warm water for 10 minutes, then drain and pat dry. Pit the dates, and add them to a grinder or mixer jar and blend until you get a coarse, sticky paste. If too dry to grind, add 1-2 teaspoons of warm water. Heat 1-2 teaspoon ghee in a non-stick pan on low flame. Add the date paste. Stir continuously and cook for 5-8 minutes, until it becomes a smooth, glossy, sticky paste and leaves the sides of the pan. Turn off the heat, and leave till its warm and pliable. Grind the nuts and seeds in a food processor. Pulse until coarsely ground (do not over-blend). Once the date mixture is slightly cooled, mix in the pulsed nuts and seeds. Add cinnamon powder or any spice powder of your choice, vanilla, and salt. Mix thoroughly with a spoon or your hands (lightly greased with ghee) until evenly combined. While the mixture is still warm, scoop small portions (about 1 tablespoon) and roll into smooth balls. Roll the balls in crushed nuts, chia seeds, or desiccated coconut for a decorative and non-sticky finish This coating is optional. Let the balls cool completely before you store them. Keep them in an airtight container at room temperature for up to 5 days, or refrigerate for up to 10 days.

Dry Fruit Laddus by Sarika Gupta

INGREDIENTS

Almond: 1 cup

Cashew nut: 1 cup

Shelled pistachio: 1/3 cup

Raisins: ¼ cup + 1 tbsp

Sugar: ¼ cup

Water: ¼ cup

Honey: 2 tbsp

Liquid glucose: 2 tbsp

Cardamom: 20 pods

METHOD

Dry roast cardamom pods in a pan on low heat. Remove the skins and lightly crush the seeds in a mortar and pestle. Halve almonds and cashews. Now cut them again to get four pieces from each nut. In a large wok, dry roast chopped almonds, briefly. Add chopped cashew nuts and continue to roast on medium low heat for 5-6 minutes. Add shelled pistachios and continue to roast till all the nuts are crisp and lightly golden. Turn off the heat, add raisins and keep tossing for two minutes in the residual heat. Set aside. Cool the nuts in a large bowl. Make sugar syrup alongside. On medium heat, cook sugar and water in a small saucepan for 10 minutes. The syrup should be thick. Add cardamom seeds, honey and liquid glucose. Pour the syrup over the mixed nuts and mix well. Work quickly as the syrup starts to set almost immediately. Remove small portions of the mixture and roll between the palms to form laddus. Put the laddus individually in small paper cups. Store in a dry container. Note: Liquid glucose and paper cups are available at bakery supply stores or can be purchased online.

NUGGETS

Resto-bar unveils Halloween menu

Watson's, Indiranagar, is launching a Halloween-special menu starting from October 27 to 31. Highlights include themed cocktails such as the smoky red blood oon and the berry-infused vampire kiss, and dishes named as Halloween mummy bacon wrap, chicken & pumpkin. For vegetarians, options vary from the vegetarian fungi delight pizza and other cheesy, mushroom-packed treats. The menu pricing starts at ₹410++ for cocktails and at ₹210++ for food.

CHANGE OF NAME

I **KARUNAKAR G M** S/o Munivenkataiah G V, Residing at No.6412, Govindappa Layout, Near Ganesha Temple, Subhashnagara, Nelamangala, Bangaluru Rural-562123 Hereby solemnly declare that I have changed my minor Son's name from **ARNAV K** to **ARNAV SAAMRAT K** vide affidavit dated.17.10.2025 sworn to before Notary, **R S Vijay,** Bengaluru.

SMART ADS

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Bengaluru.
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Email: njecco@gmail.com

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THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS **CLASSIFIEDS**

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF NAME

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **THARADEVI VENUGOPALAKRISHNA** (Old Name), Resident at No.12,10th MAIN,2nd CROSS, ADARSHA LAYOUT, KRISHNA TEMPLE ROAD, GNANAJYOTHI NAGAR, Bengaluru 560056 have changed my name to **THARADEVI SURYANARAYANA** (New Name) vide affidavit dated: 18/10/2025 Before Notary **Sivakumara.M.N** Bangalore

DECLARATION
I, Mr. Manishkumar Babulal Mehta, father of Master. Mitansh Manishkumar Mehta (minor), aged about 46 years, residing at Flat No. 801, 8th Floor, Manikchand 117, 38th Cross Road, JSS Circle, 7th Block, Jayanagar, Banashankari, Bengaluru-560 070, on behalf of my minor son declare that both names namely Mitansh Manishkumar Mehta and Mitansh Mehta refer to and identify one and the same person i.e., my son vide affidavit dated 17.10.2025 sworn before Notary Mamatha.N.K

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SWATI SHASTRI,** W/o Abhinav Shastri, age 37 years, R/at Sandhya Kutir, Gandhi School Road, Arya Nagar, Dinapur-cum-Khagaul, Patna, Bihar-801105, presently R/at B-215, Trillium Apartment, Rayasandra Main Road, Next to Muneshwara Temple, Chikkanagamangala, Bengaluru-560099 do hereby declare that both the names i.e. **Dr. SWATI VERMA** and **Dr. SWATI SHASTRI** are one and the same and refers to me only, henceforth I shall be known and called as **Dr. SWATI SHASTRI** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 17th Oct. 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **MEERA H** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RUKAIYA BEGUM ASIF SHAIKH,** W/o Asif Hussain Shaikh, age 34 years, R/at Flat No. 010 GF Samhita Royal Speldor, Lourdu Nagar, 1st Main, near Dwaraka Apartment, Virgo Nagar Post, Bengaluru-560 049 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **RUKAIYA BEGUM SHAIKH** to **RUKAIYA BEGUM ASIF SHAIKH,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **RUKAIYA BEGUM ASIF SHAIKH** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 17th October 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **SRINATHA .D.R** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **KUNNTOOR BABU,** S/o Kunjappy, residing at #10, 3rd Main, 7tyh B Cross, Kalappa Layout, Basavanagar, Marathahalli Colony, Bengaluru-560 037 have changed my name to **BABU KUNJAPPY**, vide affidavit dated 18/10/2025, sworn before Notary **SIVAKUMARA .M.N,** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RAGHU L**, S/o Lakshminarayana, age 29 years, R/at #395, 1st Main, 1st Cross, Near Shiva Temple, Yamalur, Bengaluru-560 037 have changed my name to **KUSHYANTH .L,** vide affidavit dated 18.10.2025, before Notary **SIVAKUMARA .M.N,** Bengaluru.

AFFIDAVIT
I, **SHAMANTH GOWDA G,** S/o G.H. Gowda R/at Guruvanahalli Village, Yantaganahalli Post, Kasaba Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore Rural District-562 123 do hereby declare that my correct name is **SHAMANTH GOWDA .G,** but in my passport my name is wrongly mentioned as **SHAMANTH GOWDA GOWDA** instead of **SHAMANTH GOWDA .G (SHAMANTH GOWDA GURUVANAHALLI)** vide affidavit dated 18-10-2025, sworn before Advocaet and Notary **R. LAKSHMINARAYANA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **N GAJALAKSHMI**, W/o C.Nagarajan residing at No.8, Near Sri Venkateshwara Gas Godown Road, DB Sandra, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore – 560097. I have changed my names & date of birth along with my husband's name from **GAJALAKSHMI** alias **GAJALAKSHMI N, C/o C Nagarajan, DOB: 27/02/1947** to **N GAJALAKSHMI, W/o C.Nagarajan, DOB:19/02/1947.** Henceforth, I shall be known and called as **N GAJALAKSHMI, W/o C.Nagarajan, DOB:19/02/1947** only, vide affidavit date 18/10/2025, sworn before advocate & notary K C Pemmaiah, at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
ARJUN P, aged 22 years, S/o. Savitha R & **DHANYA P** aged 20 years, D/o. Savitha R, both are residing at No.Skhandashraya, No.56/15, 1 Cross, Near Chitrakoota School Road, Nagadevanahalli, Bengaluru -56. That in the records of Star Health & Allied Insurance Company Ltd, our names are incorrectly mentioned as: P DHARMICK instead of **ARJUN P,** Policy No.6365111510115828, ID Card No. 4051643-5 And P DHARATHI instead of **DHANYA P,** Policy No. 6365111510115828, ID Card No. 4051643-6, vide affidavit dated: 18-10-2025, sworn to before Notary Deepa M. at Bengaluru.

AFFIDAVIT
I, **Srinivas K.B** (Srinivas Kunigal Bettegowda), S/o Mr. K. B. Bette Gowda aged 47 years, R/at No.8, 2nd Cros, 3rd Stage, Binny Layout, Near Goodwill Apartment , Attiguppe, Bangalore - 560 040, I state that in my Aadhaar Card & PAN Card my name is mentioned as **Srinivas K.B.,** but in my Passport my name appeard as **Srinivasa Kunigal Bettegowda,** I declare that both are my names only. I request through this affidavit to consider my name as **SRINIVAS K.B.** for all future practical purpose. Sworn before Advocate & Notary H.R. Karunakara on 17.10.2025

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **GOPI. B**, S/o. N.C. Byrappa, Aged about 49 years, Residing at No. 14, 7th Cross, 1st Main, Hosahalli, Vijayanagar, Bengaluru - 560040, have changed my minor son's name from **SUSHANTH ADITYA. G** to **UDAY.G,** vide affidavit dated 2/8/2025 sworn to before Sumithra N Advocate and Notary Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **N. TANISHQ SINGH** aged about 25 years, (D.O.B: 08.11.1999), Son of N. Narendra Singh, presently residing at # 120, 3rd Main, 5th Cross, II Stage, Vittal Nagar, Kumaraswamy Layout, Bengaluru - 560 078, have changed my name from **TANISHQ SINGH** to **N. TANISHQ SINGH,** vide affidavit dated 18/10/2025 sworn to before T Mallikarjuna Advocate and Notary Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I. **Harsha Bafna.** D/o Ramesh Mehta, W/o Ashwin D Bafna residing at No. 641. Ranka Park Apartment, 456, Lalbagh Road, Bangalore - 560027, I declare that below mentioned both names **Harsha Bafna** and **Harsha Mehta** are one and the same person, vide affidavit dated 15/10/2025 sworn to before Anitha Bai Advocate and Notary Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SONI BALA, W/o Rajnish Sharma,, aged about 52 years, resident of D-153, SJR Palazza City, Doddakannalli, Sarjapura Road, Carmelaram Post Bengaluru-560035. have changed my name to SONI vide affidavit dated: 18.10.2025 before advocate and notary B.M. Chandrashekar, Bengaluru.**

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **CHINMAY KORGAONKAR residing at: A1-002, Malaprabha Block NGV, Koramangala, Bangalore-560047, Karnataka, have changed my name to CHINMAY SHASHANK KORGAONKAR vide affidavit dated: 18.10.2025 before advocate and notary B.M. Chandrashekar, Bengaluru.**

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Nalini G,** W/o. Sri. Santhosh Kumar P and D/o Sri. Gopal and Smt. Vijaya, aged about 36 years, R/at:- No.410, 6th Main Road, 3rd Cross, Garvebhavi palya, Behind Amba Bajaj Showroom, Narasimha Reddy Layout, Bommanahalli, PO Bommanahalli, Dist Bengaluru, Karnataka-560068. I state that my name is mentioned in Election Card, Aadhar Card & PAN Card as **NALINI** & in my all Academics & Bank Records my name is mentioned as **NALINI G.** Hereby declare that, above said names are one and the same & it refers to me only. Hereinafter I will be called and known as **"NALINI G",** only. Vide Affidavit dated 17.10.2025, Sworn before Advocate and Notary R. Vishwanath, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SOWMYA**, D/o. Late Nagaraju .K, Aged about 34 years, Residing at No. 266, 4th Cross, Pragathipura, BSK 2nd Stage, Bangalore - 560 070, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SOWMYA** to **SOWMYA .N** vide affidavit dated 18.10.2025 sworn to before Hemalatha .P, Advocate & Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **RASHMI SUTRAVE**, aged about 50 years, W/o. Sutrave Bhaskar, No. 201, Himanshu Shashtri Road, Ananya Auditorium 4th Main, Between, 12th and 13th Cross, Malleswaram, Bengaluru-560003, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **RASHMI SARWADE** to **RASHMI SUTRAVE,** vide affidavit 16.10.2025, sworn to before K.V. Mani, Advocate & Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **VEER PARAS JAIN**, aged 18 years, S/o. Paras Jain, No.25 FF 2 Sri Samarjita, 2nd Floor, Govindappa Road, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru-560004, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **VEER PARASMAL JAIN** to **VEER PARAS JAIN,** vide affidavit 16.10.2025, sworn to before K.V. Mani, Advocate & Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **MILI P JAIN (MILI PARAS JAIN)** , aged about 23 years, D/o. Paras Jain, No. 25 FF 2 SRI Samarjita 2nd Floor, Govindappa Road, Basavanagudi, Bengaluru-560004, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **MILI PARASMAL JAIN** to **MILI P JAIN (MILI PARAS JAIN),** vide affidavit 16.10.2025, sworn to before K.V. Mani, Advocate & Notary, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I **KARUNAKAR G M** S/o Munivenkataiah G V, Residing at No.6412, Govindappa Layout, Near Ganesha Temple, Subhashnagara, Nelamangala, Bangaluru Rural-562123 Hereby solemnly declare that I have changed my minor Son's name from **ARYAN K** to **ARYAN ATHARVA K** vide affidavit dated.17.10.2025 sworn to before Notary, **R S Vijay,** Bengaluru.

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TALENT, NOT SKIN, DEFINES A PERSON: MAHESH GOWDA

A still from the film

Director, actor, and producer, Mahesh Gowda, along with Kajal Kunder, share the journey behind *Bilichukki Hallihakki*, and on stepping into a story of vitiligo

Mahesh Gowda, Sriimurali and Kajal Kunder

A SHARADHAA

MAHESH Gowda has always believed in the power of cinema to transform perception, yet no journey has tested him as personally as *Bilichukki Hallihakki*. Living with vitiligo, Director Mahesh, who has written the story and screenplay, and doubling as producer, has chosen to step into the spotlight not merely as an actor, but as the embodiment of a story many would shy away from. Braving his vulnerabilities, he transforms private struggle into a public narrative, inviting audiences to confront and celebrate differences. With Kajal Kunder as his co-star and Roaring Sriimuruli presenting, the film is set for a statewide release on October 24, promising an intimate cinematic experience, moving, and socially resonant. For Mahesh, telling this story was more than a project, it was a calling born during the isolation of the Covid lockdown. "*Bilichukki Hallihakki* became personal for me during Covid. After my first film, *Mahira*, which gave me critical recognition, I felt the need to create something special. I wanted to speak about vitiligo, and it became clear that cinema is the strongest platform to share this message. I wanted to show that talent, not skin or body condition, defines a person," he explains.

The actor-director-producer recalls an unexpected encounter with Puneeth Rajkumar, who encouraged him to turn his personal experience into a cinematic narrative. "It was accidental, unexpected, and yet, the universe had it planned. When he asked me about the patches in such a humble way, it sparked an idea. His vision was ten years ahead, and he insisted it should be a Kannada film. That encouragement gave me courage and perspective," Mahesh says. Claiming a first-of-its-kind status, Mahesh adds, "There are art films that touch upon vitiligo, and some celebrities or politicians have had it, but no commercial Indian film has made it the central subject. And no one who has the condition has brought it on screen. I am attempting it for the first time." The personal stakes are high. "Usually, personal things are shared with friends, but here, I was sharing my private experience professionally. Even showing my skin on screen was difficult. Morally, the support I received normalised it, but it was challenging, especially knowing how my parents and family would watch. Still, I felt compelled to bring it to life," he reflects.

For Kajal Kunder, the decision to join this sensitive yet groundbreaking project was driven by curiosity and the lure of a unique role. "When I heard the narration, I was fascinated. I've never encountered such a story, and I always seek roles different from my previous films. This character, who is unable to fully express her emotions, felt authentic and beautifully written. It challenged me as an actor," she shares. Working alongside Mahesh, both as co-star and director, came with its own dynamics. "There were no doubts. Mahesh felt normal to me; his condition didn't define him. Of course, he is conscious, and we all had to be sensitive, but ultimately he became my co-star in the truest sense," Kajal says, emphasising the respect and professionalism on set. Mahesh, mindful of balancing social messaging with entertainment, states, "I wanted a narrative with concept, not a documentary. The aim was to entertain while subtly conveying a message." He also reflects on portraying a version of himself. "Acting as Shiva while directing, brought back many personal memories. At seventy percent into preparation, I never thought I would act, but Puneeth Rajkumar's suggestion made me embrace the challenge." Kajal prepared meticulously, relying on a strong script. "Everything I needed was in the writing. I studied human emotions closely, and Kavita, my character, felt like a perfect fit. It was everyday life captured authentically," she explains.

When asked about audience takeaways, Mahesh remains humble yet ambitious. "I was told not to become Upendra, the perfect entertainer with philosophy underneath. My goal is awareness, empathy, and inspiration. I worked around limitations, took responsibility for the cast, and ensured the story resonates without feeling preachy." On whether the film was meant to motivate, he clarifies, "This story isn't born out of concern alone. Yes, vitiligo surrounds the narrative, but it's pure entertainment. I hope it touches hearts and sparks conversations, while letting people enjoy the story first." Mounting this film under the HonuDi Productions banner, *Bilichukki Hallihakki* also stars Jahangeer, Veena Sunder, Lakshmi Siddaiah, Ravi Bhat, and Girija Lokesh. The film has music by Riyo Antony and cinematography by Kiran CHM.

Ajai Rao and Sonal Monteiro's *Radheyaa* to release on this date

Sonal Monteiro and Ajai Rao

CE FEATURES

KRISHNA Ajai Rao, the versatile actor, steps into a new avatar with *Radheyaa*. After years of working with various directors and honing his craft, Vedaguru directs and also doubles as the producer under the Keerthi Chahna Cinema Karkhaane banner. The film features Sonal Monterio co-starring alongside Ajai; the teaser of the film was recently unveiled, giving audiences a glimpse into this unique narrative.

"The name Radheya comes from Karna of the Mahabharata, whose mother's name was Radha. While the film doesn't relate to Karna's story directly, it draws inspiration from the essence of his sacrifice. When Ajai Rao first heard this story, he was as captivated as I was as a director. Even though it's a love story, I wanted to tell it differently.

For Ajai Rao, this film holds a special place in his journey, who plays a character as a criminal in jail, who has a psych edge—something completely new for him. "Vedguru has crafted this story with such care, and seeing it come to life has been rewarding. As a producer myself, I understand the struggles behind making a film reach this stage."

Sonal Monterio added, "*Radheyaa* has given me a fresh experience. I play Amrutha, a crime reporter who dreams of moving to a bigger channel after studying a major case. Working with this team has been a pleasure."

The film, set to release on November 21, and distributed by Kantraju. *Radheyaa* has music by Viyaan SA (Sandy Addanki), cinematography by Rammy, and editing by Suresh Armugam.

Krishna has grown with every film: Sudeep

Sudeep with team Brat

CE FEATURES

BRAT, which reunites director Shashank and actor Darling Krishna after *Kousalya Supraja Rama*, is gearing up for its theatrical release on October 31. The makers had Kichcha Sudeep unveil the film's trailer, giving audiences a glimpse into a story that blends cricket, emotion and the chaos of ambition.

Produced by Manjunath Kandakur under Dolphin Entertainment, *Brat* opens with intensity and grit. The trailer doesn't treat cricket as just a game but as a stage where human greed and loyalty are tested. Krishna's character seems torn between passion and power, caught in the pull of fame and the pitfalls of corruption.

At the launch, Sudeep spoke with warmth about the collaboration. "Shashank is a fine storyteller, and his films always have depth," he said. "Krishna has grown with every film, and both of them proved their strength with Kousalya Supraja Rama. I hope *Brat* reaches people the same way."

For Krishna, the moment carried nostalgia. "It feels special to have Sudeep sir unveil our trailer again. He launched Kousalya Supraja Rama too, and that film changed a lot for us. Having him here again feels lucky."

The trailer presents *Brat* as a film that looks beyond cricket. It's about choices, conviction and the cost of defiance. The visuals shift between packed stadiums and dimly lit corridors, balancing the thrill of the sport with the silence of inner conflict. Krishna's character appears to walk a thin line between integrity and temptation.

Director Shashank credited his crew for bringing his vision alive. "Everyone gave their best. The film has been made with honesty, and I hope the audience senses that when they watch it."

The film's music is composed by Arjun Janya, whose songs have already struck a chord with listeners, while Abhilash Kalathi handles the cinematography, giving *Brat* its sharp and stylish look.

Producer Manjunath Kandakur said, "It means a lot that Sudeep sir launched our trailer. He's an actor who understands cricket, and that connection felt right for this story. Shashank's storytelling, Krishna's performance and the technical strength behind it make *Brat* special."

With Krishna, the film has Manisha playing the female lead, and Achyuth Kumar, Ramesh Indira, Dragon Manju among others in pivotal roles.

Dilmaar might have taken time, but it has given wings to my acting dreams: Ram

A curious child from Sira, Ram, started as a driver, became an assistant director, and finally fulfilled his wish of becoming an actor with Chandramouli's *Dilmaar*

A still from the film

CE FEATURES

RAM'S journey in cinema is a story of patience, passion, and never giving up on a dream. He now makes his debut with Dilmaar, produced by Nagaraj under Vigneshwara Cinemas releasing this week, with Mahesh K as co-producer. But reaching the big screen wasn't easy for him. "I was just a curious child from Sira," Ram recalls. "Every Friday, I eagerly await new film releases. That curiosity grew into a dream, and that dream became a goal." His love for cinema led him to Bengaluru during his PUC to learn more. "In 2000, I knew nothing about films. One of my college principals said, 'If you want to get into cinema, you need to become a film journalist.' I considered it, but my mother wanted me to finish my degree. I managed to fulfill both her wish and my dream of journalism."

In June 2006, Ram arrived in Bengaluru, unaware of the patience his journey would demand. "It wasn't easy. From 2006 to 2025, I kept pushing myself. At one point, a Telugu director offered me a job as a driver. I wanted to be in the cinema industry, so I took it. That role unexpectedly opened doors; I travelled across India for over 100 reality shows and gradually moved into assisting behind the camera. I went from being a driver to an assistant director. There were challenges, but my only aim was to become a hero on screen. I never considered side roles." His television experience helped him build crucial connections. "I worked on shows like D, Jabardast, India's Got Talent, and many Kannada dance reality shows. This platform helped me connect with celebrities, and I even became a producer and creative head in 2014. Yet, I never abandoned my acting dream."

The turning point came in 2018 when Chandramouli, the dialogue writer for KGF, reached out to him on Instagram. "He initially wanted to work with a Telugu star, but when that didn't happen, he decided to collaborate with a newcomer. My wife urged me to take the chance. I didn't have any short films or prior acting experience, so it was tough. But here we are, *Dilmaar* is set to release on October 24." *Dilmaar* is an emotional mass entertainer centred on love and family. "Psycho Shukla's character will connect with the masses, especially women. It's about heart, mind, and soul, the love between a father and daughter or a lover and his girl. Authenticity is key," he explains.

From a technical standpoint, composer Radhan, best known for films like Arjun Reddy, and Jathi Ratnalu, has worked on Dilmaar. The cinematography is by Girish Gowda and Tanvik. Alongside Ram, the film features Dimple Hayathi, Aditi Prabhudeva, Ashok, and Sai Kumar in a pivotal antagonist role. "I'm grateful for the support from Kannada celebrities like Shivrajkumar and his wife Geetha, Dhruva Sarja, and Sriimurali," he adds. Looking back, Ram concludes, "*Dilmaar* might have taken time, but it has given wings to my acting dreams. I already have another project, Ruby, and a few more in discussion. Chandramouli's faith in a newcomer and my passion for acting came together perfectly. I'm confident audiences will love the film."

Zendaya and Robert Pattinson's *The Drama* gets a 2026 release

CE FEATURES

ZENDAYA and Robert Pattinson's upcoming romcom The Drama has set a release date for April next year. Written and directed by Kristoffer Borgli, known for his surreal black comedy Dream Scenario, The Drama hits theatres on April 3, 2026.

Details about the plot have been kept under wraps, although the storyline is suggested to be about a couple whose romance takes an unexpected and dramatic turn just before their big day. The Drama, which finished shooting late last year, also stars Alana Haim, Mamoudou Athie, and Hailey Gates.

Ari Aster and Lars Knudsen are producing The Drama through their Square Peg banner alongside Kristoffer Borgli and Tyler Campellone of Dilemma Films, and in collaboration with A24. The Drama is Kristoffer Borgli's fourth film and his second with A24.

Zendaya and Pattinson will also share screen space in Christopher Nolan's much-anticipated The Odyssey, also starring Matt Damon, Tom Holland, Anne Hathaway, Lupita Nyong'o, and Charlize Theron. Apart from these two films, they will also feature in Dune: Part Three, where Pattinson is joining the franchise for the first time.